# AUSTRALIAN LOWLINE CATTLE ASSOCIATION



## Newsletter



Grand Champion Australian Lowline Bull & Female competing for the Supreme Champion Lowline Title at Canberra 2025

## **COUNCIL NEWS**

### **Welcome New Members**

It is with great pleasure that we welcome these new members to our Association and hope they enjoy being part of the Lowline family.

**Brooke Walsh** – Full Member ISW Ironstone Echunga, SA 5153

**Peter Beukers –** Lifestyle Member BNA Boonara Barrington, NSW 2422

**Andrew Heath: Bede Polding College -** School Membership BPC Bede Polding College Bligh Park, NSW 2756

## **Introducing Our New Office Staff**

#### Executive Officer – Sam Hamilton



Sam was born and raised in the Armidale area and has had a lifelong connection to the cattle industry. She holds a Certificate in Agriculture, Graphic Design, and Leadership,

as well as a Diploma in Business.

Prior to taking up her role with ABRI, Sam spent over 10 years at Angus Australia, where she held positions as a Member Services Officer, Sale Catalogues and Marketing Officer, and later senior roles in both areas.

Sam is also actively involved in the Red Poll Youth program, helping to organise, and run the annual Youth Camp for over a decade. She strongly believes that the younger generation is the future of any breed, and that it is essential to educate and provide them with opportunities to grow. Seeing young cattle enthusiasts develop into leaders in the agricultural industry is one of the most rewarding aspects of Sam's work. Sam's focus in her role with ALCA is to ensure members receive the highest level of service, with efficient turnaround times for all member needs.

#### **Contact Details:**

Monday – Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm Phone: (02) 6773 3295

Email: office@lowlinecattleassoc.com.au

# AUSTRALIAN LOWLINE CATTLE ASSOCIATION



## Newsletter

## Website Changes

## A New Look for the Saleyard Page

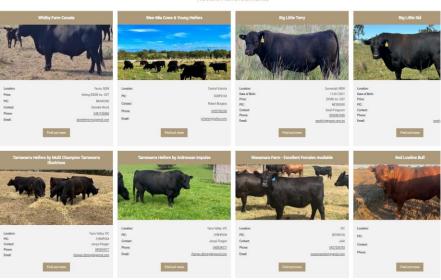
Our Website Developer GOOP has upgraded our **Saleyard Page**. The page has a more modern look and viewing advertisements has been streamlined. The word count for advertisements has increased from 50 to 75 words to allow members to give more information about the animal/s for sale and advertisers can now add up to 4 photos.

Advertising on the Saleyard page is available to all members for:

- 1. REGISTERED Australian Lowline/Lowline cattle (or registration pending).
- 2. For registered Australian Lowline/Lowline embryos.
- 3. For semen from registered Australian Lowline bulls (must be SNP tested & approved for AI with ALCA).
- 4. For Lowline steers
- 5. For farm equipment and supplies

Please contact Jacqui Feagan 0409 384 077 or <a href="mailto:rfeagan.dbms@bigpond.com">rfeagan.dbms@bigpond.com</a> if you require assistance with submitting an advertisement to the Saleyard page.

Recent Advertisment



# Meet Our New Registrar – Quinn Dalton



Quinn Dalton is your primary contact for all registrar-related work.

Quinn brings valuable experience from

her time with the Australian Wagyu Association and as a farmhand on a Wagyu stud. She has also spent time overseas before recently returning home to take on this role at our Armidale office.

Quinn's experience in breeding practices, record-keeping, and maintaining high standards in animal genetics will be a great asset to our society.

With a keen eye for detail and a passion for the industry, Quinn is excited to support the continued success of the Lowline breed.

#### **Contact Details:**

Monday – Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm Ph: 02 6773 5588

Email:

lowline.registrar@abri.une.edu.au

## **AUSTRALIAN LOWLINE CATTLE ASSOCIATION**



## Newsletter

### LOWLINE

### **ALCA Journal 2025**

Work on the annual ALCA Journal is underway. Advertising in the

Journal provides great exposure for your stud or commercial enterprise. Requirements for journal advertisements, timelines

and pricing will be sent to members soon.

Please support the Association Journal. Members can also submit articles for publication. For further information please contact the ALCA

Office.



### BREEDPLAN FOR ALCA MEMBERS

After two decades ALCA members will again have access to breed performance data through Breedplan.

Interested members are encouraged to attend short workshops run by ABRI and designed to introduce beef breeders to BREEDPLAN. The one hour Getting Started with BREEDPLAN workshops are designed for beef breeders who are new to performance recording with BREEDPLAN and would like to learn more about the BREEDPLAN genetic evaluation.

The workshop introduces participants to BREEDPLAN EBVs, performance recording, data submission, BREEDPLAN reports, available BREEDPLAN resources and where to turn for further advice. The workshop also includes a live demonstration of the online web services area.

The Getting Started with BREEDPLAN workshops are designed for online delivery. Each workshop is facilitated by two members of the ABRI Extension Services team and delivered to a small group. Designed with audience participation in mind, there will be plenty of opportunities for participants to ask questions throughout the workshop. A dedicated session for audience Q&A is also included.

Bookings are essential so if you would like to participate in BREEDPLAN please contact the ALCA, EO Samantha **Hamilton** for further information and to book a place in an upcoming workshop.

## ALCA YOUTH INCENTIVE PROGRAM (YIP)



An exciting new yearly competition for Australian and New Zealand ALCA Youth is starting on

July 1st, 2025.

For further information, contact Justin Clarke (ALCA Council Member for Youth) P: 0417 070 530





# AUSTRALIAN LOWLINE CATTLE ASSOCIATION



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### **ALCA School Banner Design Competition**

In 2024 ALCA ran a competition for School Banner Design



Competition for students. The prize for the winner was a \$100 merchandise voucher from the Lowline Shop and a certificate. The winning design was created by Lizzie Gardner from Centenary Heights High School. The black and white banner shows a student and lowline heifer in silhouette.

ALCA will purchase and distribute the New School Banners in 2025. Congratulations Lizzie

#### **New ALCA Keyring Design**

Our newly designed Keyrings are now available in the Lowline Shop. Get yours while they last, a great gift or Christmas stocking filler for the Lowline enthusiast.

Visit the lowlineshop.com



#### ADD A PHOTO TO THE ALCA DATABASE

Did you know you can add a photo to your stud animals' pedigree on the ALCA database.

There is a feature article in this newsletter on how to take great photos of your animals. Not only can members use tips from that article to get pics which will stand out in their Saleyard advertisements but also use them to promote their breeding animals in the database. Members might also like to add their stud logo to pedigrees in the database too.

Members can select a small photo option  $400 \times 300 \text{ px}$  or large photo  $640 \times 480 \text{ px}$  in the <u>lowlineshop.com</u> on the ALCA website

Please email your photos with animal details (animal name + ID) and/or your stud logo to the lowline.registrar@abri.une.edu.au.





# AUSTRALIAN LOWLINE CATTLE ASSOCIATION





### Canberra Show 2025 – Australian Lowline Feature Breed

### Results

Calf Champion Australian Lowline Female

CANN VALLEY VENUS MOON (ET) (AI) - Matt Cooney

Reserve Calf Champion Australian Lowline Female

ROTHERWOOD VICTORIA'S SECRET - Vicki Gilbert

Junior Champion Australian Lowline Female

CANN VALLEY UR SENTIMENTAL (AI) (ET) (RC) - Matt Cooney

Reserve Junior Champion Australian Lowline Female

WHTBY FARM CIA - Ken & Gill Lorains

Senior Champion Australian Lowline Female

CANN VALLEY SUPER MOON (A.I.) - Matt Cooney

Reserve Senior Champion Australian Lowline Female

WHITBY FARM GINGHAM - Ken & Gill Lorains

Grand Champion Australian Lowline Female

CANN VALLEY UR SENTIMENTAL (AI) (ET) (RC) - Matt Cooney

Calf Champion Australian Lowline Bull

CANN VALLEY VELOCITY (RC) - Matt Cooney

Calf Reserve Champion Australian Lowline Bull

NO ENTRY

Junior Champion Australian Lowline Bull

CANN VALLEY SIR ULYSSES (AI) (ET) - Matt Cooney

Reserve Junior Champion Australian Lowline Bull

APPLEGARTH UTOPIA - Applegarth Heritage Farm

Senior Champion Australian Lowline Bull

ROTHERWOOD TOP SHELF ON ICE (AI) (R) - Vicki Gilbert

Reserve Senior Champion Australian Lowline Bull

LOCARNO SENTINEL (AI) - Kawala View

Grand Champion Australian Lowline Bull

ROTHERWOOD TOP SHELF ON ICE (AI) (R) - Vicki Gilbert

Supreme Australian Lowline Exhibit

CANN VALLEY UR SENTIMENTAL (AI) (ET) (RC) - Matt Cooney

Most Successful Australian Lowline Exhibitor

MATT COONEY - Cann Valley



Canberra Show 2025 Exhibitors

## **Sponsors**

#### **MAJOR SPONSORS**

Australian lowline Cattle Association, NSW Promotional Group (ALCA), Cann Valley Cattle Co, Threads – Lifestyle Accessory Designer, Muscateer Valley Lowline Stud

#### SILVER SPONSORS

Ace Ohlsson (ELDERS) Hawkesbury NSW, Whitby Farm Lowlines

#### **BRONZE SPONSOR**

Barrenjoey Lowlines, Castle Hill Gourmet Farmers Market, Tilder Jane



Sam Dickinson with Locarno Sentinel

# AUSTRALIAN LOWLINE CATTLE ASSOCIATION

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### HERITAGE BANK TOOWOOMBA ROYAL SHOW 2025

The Toowoomba Royal Show 2025 has now been run and won. What a fantastic show with a super impressive lineup of Australian Lowline cattle. There were 48 entries overall and that's not including calves at foot, from 13 exhibiting studs culminating in the Over 24 months cow class having a total of 15 individual entries.

Everyone from the exhibitors, sponsors, those behind the scenes in its implementation to the spectators who turned

up on the day of judging, all deserve a big pat on the back for the extreme weather conditions faced over the 4 days, with the rain only stopping an hour before judging on Saturday. It was a tremendous effort by all involved.

Finally, this year's show was the first to award the Phil Worthington perpetual trophy for the Supreme Lowline Exhibit. The trophy was presented on behalf of Phil's wife Kay, by Meggie Reuthmuller, to the grand champion bull

Tarrawarra Luminescence paraded by Smart Lowline Stud, Tallegalla. Well done to all

### **RESULTS**

**CALF CHAMPION BULL** 

Jacqui Schiller - Lik Lik Vroom

JUNIOR CHAMPION BULL

Leo Clarke - Rockin J Ultimate Mr RJ

JUNIOR RESERVE CHAMPION BULL

Leo Clarke - Whitby Farm Fletcher

SENIOR CHAMPION BULL

Martin Page - Tarrawarra Luminescence

SENIOR RESERVE CHAMPION BULL

Lockyer District High School - Loc-Hi Tallis

**GRAND CHAMPION BULL** 

Martin Page - Tarrawarra Luminescence

CALF CHAMPION FEMALE

Jacqui Schiller - Lik Lik Victory

CALF RESERVE CHAMPION FEMALE

Martin Page - Smart U R Summertime

**IUNIOR CHAMPION FEMALE** 

Jacqui Schiller - Lik Lik Urika

JUNIOR RESERVE CHAMPION FEMALE

Pittsworth State High School - Pittsworth Unity

SENIOR CHAMPION FEMALE

Wendy Caesar - Ebony Tanami

SENIOR RESERVE CHAMPION FEMALE

Jacqui Schiller - Lik Lik Ulina

GRAND CHAMPION FEMALE

Wendy Caesar - Ebony Tanami

SUPREME CHAMPION AUSTRALIAN CHAMPION

Martin Page - Tarrawarra Luminescence



Winner of the Phil Worthington Perpetual Trophy 2025
Tarrawarra Luminescence



Cow over 24 months Class - 15 Entries

## **AUSTRALIAN LOWLINE CATTLE ASSOCIATION**





## **Nalcoombie Pastoral Company**

Emily Gale was the instigator and "boss" for Nalcoombies' first showing in the Lowline ring at Beef Australia 2024. Ably supported by her brothers - she has eight - they travelled from their 13,000-acre property at Springsure, Central Queensland. There they have a Lowline stud and a Shorthorn stud which was initiated by their grandfather.



They began with Kougari, Kin Kin Dalrymple Creek bloodlines and now run a herd of about fifty cows and their offspring and several bulls.

Thev use the Lowline bulls over their first calf Shorthorn heifers thev were

finding calving problems with the heifers and Shorthorn bulls. Emily has found with the crosses, calving is earlier and easier. They have not had to pull a calf in years and her Dad is very happy not to have to pull calves anymore. Four Lowline bulls are used over about 110 heifers each year. The crossbred offspring are sent to the abattoir and they find they are not losing on the steers and they yield better than the purebreds. They use the pure Lowline steers to feed themselves and family as it's such good meat. Springsure can be tough country at times and they have found that the Lowlines do well out there and don't struggle. And they do eat less than the Shorthorns.

Emily decided to attend Beef Australia this year as it seemed like a good idea as they are a bit isolated at Springsure. It was an opportunity to get to know other Lowline breeders and get the Nalcoombie stud recognized. With the support of the family, they exhibited two bulls and two cows.

They returned home with a new Lowline bull - and two Shorthorn bulls and three heifers. Emily is excited to improve the Lowline stud and intends to show on their local show circuit. And she hopes to return to Beef Australia 2027

#### AROUND THE RING



Canberra Royal Show 2025 Cow Class



Canberra Royal Show 2025 - Ken Lor



Canberra Royal Show 2025 - Jess Muscat



Canberra 2025: Lined up ringside

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## **Lightning Strikes – Congratulations Ethan**

Ethan Jonston of Lightning Lowlines lives in Bude, a seaside town in north Cornwall, England, United Kingdom. His mother Lisa is one very proud parent. Ethan had a very successful day at the Mid Somerset Show. This was his first time showing in proper Lowline classes.

Calf class - 2nd for Minnie Cow class - 3rd for Mouse Heifer in calf or milk - 1st for Blueberry Champion Lowline with Blueberry



Young Handler class -1st for Ethan & Blueberry.

Ethan then went on to win Reserve Champion Handler.



Lisa says she could not be any prouder of her boy,

"he works so hard and is determined to do his best.

Thank you so much to the other competitors for all the great advice you gave to Ethan and for making it a very special day"

#### AROUND THE RING CONT



Toowoomba 2025 Best Dressed Stall



Toowoomba 2025 Success for Leo Clarke



Toowoomba 2025 SQLPG Stand

# AUSTRALIAN LOWLINE CATTLE ASSOCIATION





## **Make Your Saleyard Ad Stand Out With A Great Photo**

Our new Saleyard page on the ALCA website has been designed to give your advertisements more visual impact. So, it is even more important to use great photos that make your advertisement stand out. In this article we look at hints from professional photographers to help you get a great shot of your animal and make a sale.

### **Allow plenty of Time**

Allow plenty of time to capture the best images, using the tips in this article. Things might go to plan, but don't expect to get the best picture possible in the first two or three minutes. In fact, walking the animal around and 'starting again' with a different stance can give you two or more different options to review and select from.

It's impossible to take a decent image of an animal which is fidgeting, stirred-up or on-the-move. Just ease into the paddock or yard and wait for the animal to get used to you and settle. Once the animal is settled you can gently pressure them to step forward (or back) to adopt a better posture. Having a 'mate' in an adjacent yard, or nearby in the paddock can assist in avoiding an animal feeling isolated, and under pressure.

## **Location, location:**

Look for the right location.



Bull standing downhill with head turned away & fence in background

Avoid uneven ground, where one front or hind leg is lower than the other, creating uneven shoulders or hips.

Ideally, have the animal facing 'up-hill' on a slightly rising slope. The next best is flat ground but avoid a downwards slope at all costs. A downhill orientation can give the impression of a hollow, or 'swampy' back, while slightly up-hill produces a flatter backline. It's amazing how much difference ground slope can make.

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### Photographer's position

The photographer's position, relative to the animal, is important. The ideal position to take the image



Source: Beef Central July 2022- Wrong orientation distorts the animal

from is directly off the point of the shoulder. Further forward, and the animal looks too shoulder-heavy and under-developed in the hindquarter. Height of the camera is equally important. Aim for a slightly crouched shooting position, around 1.5 metres. Never take a picture with the camera higher than the animal. It makes them look small.

### Feet placement:

There are very specific locations for feet placement when photographing halter-led cattle and placement

differs between beef bulls and females. For unled animals photographed in 'paddock' or 'yard' settings, it is difficult to achieve good feet placement. Look to avoid the following:

- Over-extension, where there is too much space between forelegs and hind legs
- Under-extension, where the animal appears 'tucked-up' because the fore and hind legs are too close together.
- Avoid 'scissor legs' at front or hind, but aim to see all four legs in the image
- Avoid 'slouching' in posture, where the animal takes its weight off one of its legs, just as humans sometimes do.

Preferably, get the animal to stand with the hind leg closest to you back so you can see the udder or testicles.

#### **Head & Ear Position:**

The animals head position can make or break your photo, so it is worth the effort to have the animal's head positioned correctly. Straight ahead is not ideal, but fully 'rotated' towards the camera is worse. The head should be up and looking at a 45° angle to the camera. In bulls with heavily hooded eyes, you are looking to just see the hood of the offside eye.

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Source Beef Central July 2022 - Avoid Head down and fully turned to camera

Little things such as ear placement are important too. Pricked (forward) ears give the impression of alertness and style. The best way to accomplish this look is to have another person stand in front of the animal and do something to get their attention, wave their arms, whistle or do whatever necessary get the animal to look at them.

Also, using a crackly plastic bag or rattle can get the animal to prick their ears. Professional photographers

will sometimes record cattle bellowing on their iPhone and play it to get an animal's attention during the photo session.

### **Choose the Right Background:**

Avoid distracting backgrounds, like a tree or fence post 'growing out of the animal's back.' Look for uniform, contrasting backgrounds. Make sure you don't get a shot with your ute, hay feeders, junk piles or other cows in the picture. Try not to have the subject animal standing next to a fence. A cow standing in a green pasture with some spring flowers blooming takes a great picture.



No definition & star post through middle

#### **Dark-Coated Animals:**

The definition in dark-coated cattle can disappear in photos taken on overcast days when light is low.

Black Australian Lowline cattle are hard to photograph effectively, especially on overcast days when the light is low. Muscle pattern can disappear altogether, leaving only a 'silhouette'. Try to choose a lighter coloured background for dark cattle and avoid the middle of the day, when the sun is directly overhead, and the rest of the body is in deep shadow. Take your photos early morning, or later

afternoon, when the sun is lower, with the sun behind you.

The light at these times of day will illuminate the animal's full profile, including the underline. Remember to stand where your shadow does not fall into the picture. Use your flash to help eliminate shadows

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#### **General hints**



- \*Fill as much of the frame as possible with the animal. Have room to back up if necessary.
- \*Do not cut off any of the head or feet; get the whole animal in the photo.
- \*Don't carry a bucket of feed or hay with you to take your pictures. What you'll get for the next hour are cattle with their heads down eating.
- \*Preferably take your photos in the spring or early summer after the animal has shed their winter coat and are in good condition.
- \*Remember a paddock animal's coat can look better after being cleaned up by rain.



A beautiful paddock pic of cow

#### Adapted from:

Beef Central: Ten hints to improve your stud stock photography – 12th July 2022 Edition

ALCA Newsletter: How to photograph your cattle - February/March 2022

# AUSTRALIAN LOWLINE CATTLE ASSOCIATION



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## **Junior Beef 2024** by Sloane Bridges

My name is Sloane, a Junior ALCA member from Central QLD and I have the pleasure of writing a report about my time at Junior Beef 2024 at Rockhampton Showgrounds.



On Monday, all our livestock and accessories had to be in the showgrounds by 3pm. Finding spots for our Stud Cattle in the sheds and, if camping, setting up all we required.

Tuesday was a full day of educational activities including Shed Manners, AI, Trade Cattle Tutorial, Tissue Sampling Unit, Ring Craft, Fitting, Cooking and Stud Cattle Tutorial.

My favorite learning experiences from the educational day were cooking, stud cattle tutorial, AI, and Tissue Sampling Unit.

During the cooking session, we learned how to make Asian rice paper rolls with beef. It was great to taste something different and know that beef products are used in a variety of foods and cooking styles from different countries. They were also delicious to eat.

The things I liked about Stud Cattle Tutorial was learning what judges look for like udder placement, bulls testicular development, structural correctness, movement, and the character of the breeds.

AI was interesting because we learnt about how many straws can be collected per week on average and that there is only a 50% chance of having a calf.

Finally, Tissue Sampling Unit, because we got to do hands on activities like giving deceased cattle ear tags and doing DNA sampling on them.

Wednesday, we started with a bus trip to CQLX Saleyards in Gracemere for some Prime Cattle Judging. It was interesting and we even got to judge steers. Some of which were very grumpy. We then returned to the Rocky Showgrounds, had lunch, and started our Stud Cattle Judging. Whilst we judged all the stud cattle, my group presented our judging decision for the bulls. We all took our turns speaking

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### **Junior Beef 2024 cont:**

on the microphone and informing what position each bull should be placed in and why. That night we had activities like trivia and at the end we were given a cap and water bottle.

On Thursday, Junior Parading Competition was held and a friend and I used two of my lowline heifers to participate. CQ Carcus Competition judging was also completed for the led steers. After lunch we had the Stud Cattle Competition. There were only two lowlines present amongst a variety of brahmans, angus, speckled park and many more. The lowlines may have been the smallest of the bunch, but at least they were represented, and I had the opportunity to learn and experience from the event.

It would be wonderful if something similar could be held for compact breeds like our amazing lowlines in the future!

Thank you, Sloane

