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Send news, advertising, coming events and suggestions to the CMAA office. If your picture is used on the cover you will recieve a \$50 advertising credit!

Fall Magazine Ad Deadline: Aug. 1/15

Advertisers Index

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Mr. Rusylvia Bennilli 6B exhibited by Rusylia Cattle Co. Canadian Bull Congress Grand Champion Rancher's Choice Bull - over all breeds!

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GENETIC DESTINATION 5th ANNUAL BULL SALE

New date! March 31, 2015 1 P.M.

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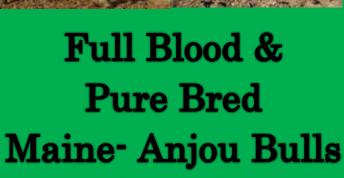












For Sale

To view contact: Kristine Burgess at Cattleland (403) 333-5607













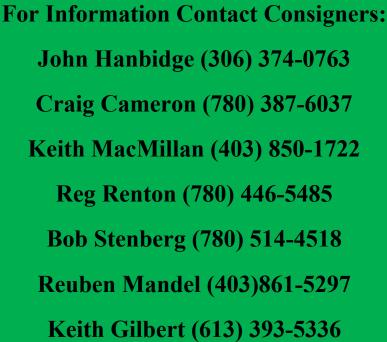














6 Maine Mail Winter 2015

KVS Cattle Co.

Smith Anchor Bar Ranch

Smiths 49B

3/4 Power Pak Champion Mainetainer Bull Calf Reserve Maintainer Bull



20 Maine and
Mainetainer Yearling
Bulls For Sale By
Private Treaty



38B ~ Power Pak son



16B \sim Mr Style 49Z son



12B ~ Power One son

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Scott McCormack President



Heidi Voegeli-Bleiker Office Manager

Office hours: Tuesdays - 8am - 4:30pm Wednesdays - 8am - 4:30pm

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings everyone!

Another six months has passed, calving is underway and bull sale season is right around the corner. I certainly don't need to tell you how great the cattle business is right now - all classes of cattle are bringing more money through sale rings across North America then ever before! Thank goodness all indications are these prices will be here to stay for a little while.

I want to say "Thank You" for all your support for our Board of Directors and the projects we are bringing to you. Your Board has been very busy with SNP Conversion well underway. While we have been less than impressed with the numbers of samples we have received thus far, deadlines have been extended and there is room for more sample submissions. We have secured grant money by prepaying for sample testing. The more samples we run, the better map of the Maine-Anjou breed we can produce in order to start offering some other value added programs for you, the members. I must also encourage all breeders to submit all performance data - birthweights, weaning weight and yearling weights. The more information the better folks. The science and technology the seed stock sector is using to select their top bulls and heifers has changed dramatically over the last decade and will only continue to change.

A few bull tests are underway and will hopefully give us some results to base the direction of this great breed. There is incredible opportunity for all sectors of the Maine-Anjou breed to grow our market share through aggressive marketing of a predictable product.

The office is in good hands as Heidi continues to take care of Your needs with ease. I'm sure many of you have had the opportunity to speak with her. I encourage you to pick up the phone and say Hello.

I would also ask each and everyone of you to thank your Vice President, Kelly Smith-Fraser, for an incredible amount of leg work securing grant money and making puzzle pieces fit where needed.

Please join us in Lloydminster, SK this summer as the Sask. Maine-Anjou Association and Manitou Maine-Anjou host the Canadian Maine-Anjou Annual Meeting. Aug. 7-9, 2015. This event will be a great time to network with new acquaintances & life-long friends and to influence the direction of the Maine-Anjou Breed in Canada.

See you down the road, Scott McCormack, CMAA President

OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT

Well, I hope your 2015 started well and you had some time to rest before calving season has started or will start soon. Remember to register your calves between 0-6 months of age so you receive the price of \$20.

There are several bull sales coming up soon. Send me the information and for a charge of \$100 I can send out an email blast to all members.

Our youth is working hard with their 4-H projects, good luck to all of you!

Congratulations to Rusylvia Cattle Co. for their great success with Mr. Rusylvia Bennilli. He has won Grand Champion Bull at FarmFair, Agribition and Grand Champion Ranchers Choice Bull of all Breeds at Canadian Bull Congress. Along with this, Bennilli won the first ever Tullamore Premier Show of Ireland Gold Medal presented by the Tullamore Show Secretary from Ireland with him being the first Canadian animal to ever receive.

Membership packages went out in January; remember membership fees are due January 1st of each year.

This year's Annual General Meeting will be held in Lloydminster on the weekend of Aug 7-9th.

I'm looking forward to meet the Board of Directors and members I have had the pleasure of talking over the phone and members I haven't met yet.

The Maine-Anjou registration work has been steady and I would like to thank the membership for their continued support.

Good luck with calving season!

Sincerely,

Heidi Voegeli-Bleiker





We would like to thank 4T Drilling, Powell, WY., Justin and Debbie McMillin, Hanna, AB., and Bryce Quaschnick, Hanna, AB. for selecting over 90 cows and heifers from the NuHaven herd. Many Maine-Anjou breeders will recognize Debbie as Debbie McKay of Calberta Farms. We are very excited that most of this group of cows will be joining the herd at Calberta. After over 70 years of family friendships we couldn't ask for better homes for this group. Most friendships were meant to last a lifetime, the great ones are three generations strong.





Purebred Maine and Maine-Tainer Bulls & Heifers For Sale by Private Treaty Sired by: Sugar Rush, Big Jake, Man Power and sons of Mercedes Benz, Suh and Ali

NuHaven herd is still strong with over 90 of the foundation and younger cows to continue creating the animals that made this such a uniform package to offer.

Prospect bulls, heifers and steers available summer of 2015 sired by I-80,
I-67, Monopoly Money, Walks Alone, Statesman son and Big Jake!

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Kelly & Scott Fraser

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www.nuhavencattle.com

ALBERTA MAINE-ANJOU ASSOCIATION

Submitted by Kevin Shuckburgh

By the time many of you read this you will be close to starting or well on your way through calving season and the assessment of last years breeding decisions begins. Here in Alberta the price of purebred & commercial cattle are reaching new highs with each sale report. It's time to get in the loop. I encourage everyone to Pick up the phone or even better get in the vehicle and drive to some of the fellow breeders places to see whats out there to improve our breeding programs. If you feel you have something good to offer don't be shy and sit at home, the only way to market these good maine cattle is to let someone know you have them.

Support for Farmfair was great this year. Thank you to all of our sponsors and exhibitors for making this event a huge success. Traffic through the barns was way up from years past as there is a renewed interest from commercial cattlemen on how to improve their product. A lot of new faces were seen up and down the Maine alleys looking for a new alternative to get more out of their cows. It was also great to see first time Maine Anjou exhibitors. Year one for our maintainer show was well supported as half of the cattle exhibited at farm fair were maintainers. Thanks to Doug and Katie Roxburgh for getting it rolling. I would also like to say thank you to Brian Brown for all of the time he spends on the beef committee and work he puts in as our barn boss.

I hope everyone is enjoying this years Alberta Maine Anjou calendar. Thanks again to all of our sponsors. If you would like to advertise in next years calendar or purchase additional calendars for breed promotion stay tuned to our

website. www.albertamaine-anjou.com Thank you to Craig and Miriam Cameron as well as Brian Zimmer for the time you put in to give us our beautiful calendars.

With spring approaching there will be many jackpot shows followed by Summer Synergy and the Alberta Junior Maine -Anjou show. I encourage breeders to both sponsor and to get out and attend these events. For those who have not attended jackpot shows you will be amazed by the volume of Maine influence cattle you will see. If you have kids, consider taking part. If you already attend, bring along some friends. The skills and scholarships are only a few of the benefits of getting out and getting involved.

Make sure to check out the Alberta website www.albertamaineanjou.com to stay in tune with whats happening. If you have a bull or set of bulls to market this spring be sure to use the classifieds section. Its free to paid Alberta members.

If anyone out there is wondering what the alberta board is up to feel free to give any of the directors or myself a call. We are only a handful of people and would greatly appreciate everyone's input. Just remember its hard to drink champagne on a beer budget. We do what we can with the finances we have and get by because of the support from all of you.

Good luck to everyone this calving season and I hope everyone has great bull sales.



Gilcrost Farms...

would like to sincerely say "Thank You" to everyone who supported our fall sale on December 6th! We would also like to say "Thank You" for your patience and apologize for the difficulites experienced with the online component of the sale.



For Sale By Private Treaty

Registration # 516678FB BD:Jan. 23, 2014

Sire : Fallon's High Voltage 41U Dam : Gilcroft Page 11P

Start Of Test Weight : 954 lbs 56 Day Weight : 1164 lbs Weight Per Day Of Age : 3.28 lbs 56 Day Average Daily Gain : 3.74 lbs

13B is currently part of the Fullblood Test Group at Cattlelands Feedyard Strathmore, AB.

GILCROFT FARMS

Keith, Theo and Ron Gilbert 256 Jericho Rd., Demorestville, ON. K0K 1W0 Phone: (613) 393-5336 Email: gilcroftmaines@hotmail.com

submitted by Doug Kerr

The 2014-2015 bull test marks 51 years of operation for the Douglas Bull Test Station. The bulls were delivered Oct 14 -17th, 2014. After 28 days warm up period on test weights were taken Nov 12 -13th, 2014. We started test with 148 bulls from 8 breeds. Three Bulls are Maine-Anjou consigned by Badgerhill Maine-Anjou.

56 day weights were taken on Jan. 7th 2015. The top gaining bull at 56 days is a Shorthorn Bull from Bill Acheson of Somerset, MB, with ADG of 5.67lbs, and WDA of 4.26lbs.

All Bulls at the test station are fed the same ration with a target of 2.5 - 3.0lb gains per day. Higher gains are achieved with superior genetics.

84 day weight Feb 4th, 2015 End of test weigh Mar 4+5th 2015 Sale Day April 4th, 2015 (First Saturday in April)

This year there are 28 heifers on test from 9 consigners.

This year's sale will be broadcast by Cattle in Motion. Videos of the sale bulls + heifers can be viewed on line at www.cattleinmotion.com starting the last week of March 2015.

Douglas Last Chance Bull Sale

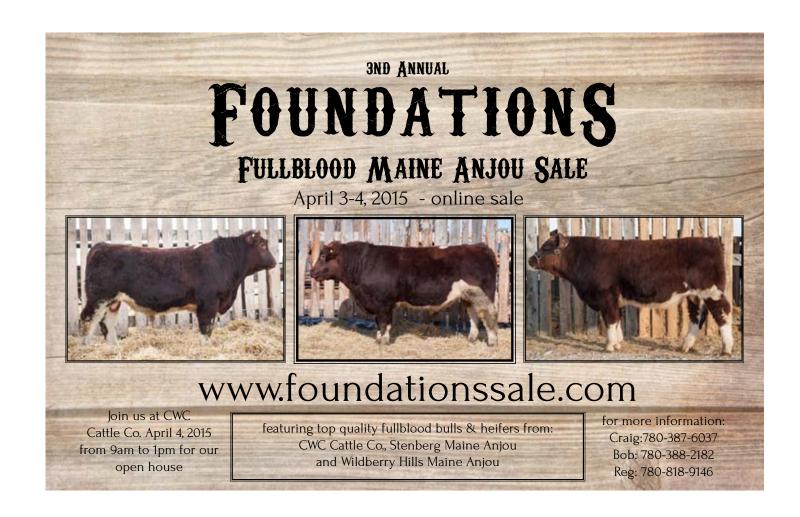
This year we are having a second Bull Sale, which will be held in conjunction with our annual general meeting June 17th, 2015. Bulls entered in the sale must have registration papers, pass Vet inspection and be semen tested, less then 30 days before the sale date. There will be no age registration of bulls. Individual consigners are responsible for their own advertising.

Douglas Bull Test Station welcomes visitors at any time on site or on-line at www.maitobabulltest.com.

For more information contact.

Ivan Ahntholz, station manager 204-763-4696 cell 204-724-6271

Bev Walker, Office Manager 204-763-4696 204-763-4102





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Home: (306) 374-0763

Email: magpiemaines@yourlink.ca

Contact: Anne Hanbidge

Mailing Address: Site 816 Comp 163 RR#8 Saskatoon SK. S7K 1M2

Website:

www.magpiemaines.webs.com



2014

Judge: September 2014

Lindsay Exhibition Maine-Anjou Show, Lindsay, ON

Bulls:

Bull Calf Champion and Reserve

Truray's Bowdashus - Truray's Farm KRR Mr. BarNone 3B - K-Rod Kattle

Junior Champion Bull and Reserve

Barlee Sonic Boom 1A - Perry Maine-Anjou Farms Perry's Mr Mercedes Benz - Perry Maine-Anjou Farms

Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Bull

Barlee Sonic Boom 1A - Perry Maine-Anjou Farms Perry's Mr Mercedes Benz - Perry Maine-Anjou Farms

Females:

Female Calf Champion and Reserve

Perry's Miss M Man Bella 380B - Perry Maine-Anjou Farms Perry's Miss Baby Boomer 38B - Perry Maine-Anjou Farms

Junior Champion Female and Reserve

RRRC Erica 283A - K-Rod Kattle

Nordick Blk Noreen 2A - Nordick Maine-Anjou

Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Female

RRRC Erica 283A - K-Rod Kattle

Nordick Blk Noreen 2A - Nordick Maine-Anjou

Percentage:

Percentage Champion Female and Reserve

KRR Miss Elba 8B - K-Rod Kattle JCF Black Berry 1B - Crawford Farms

Jackpot Heifer Class:

- 1. K-Rod Kattle
- 2. Nordick Maine-Anjou
- 3. Gilcroft Farms
- 4. Crawford Farms
- 5. Crawford Farms

Breeder's Herd

1st - Nordick Maine-Anjou

3rd - Gilcroft Farms 4th - Truray's Farm

5th - Martinvale Farms

6th - T&T Maines

Get of Sire

1st - Nordick Maine Anjou

2nd - Perry Maine-Anjou Farms 2nd - Perry Maine-Anjou Farms

3rd - Gilcroft Farms

4th - K-Rod Kattle

5th - Truray's Farm

6th - Martinvale Farms



Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Bull

Barlee Sonic Boom 1A Exhibited by Perry Maine-Anjou Farms



RRRC Erica 283A Exhibited by K-Rod Kattle, Wyoming, 0N



Perry's Mr Mercedes Benz Exhibited by Perry Maine-Anjou Farms

1st - Perry Maine-Anjou Farms

2nd - Nordick Maine Anjou

5th - Burnlea Stock Farms

6th - Martinvale Farms



Reserve Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Bull Reserve Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Female

Nordick Blk Noreen 2A Exhibited by Nordick Maine-Anjou, Wyoming, ON



Grand Champion Percentage Maine-Anjou Female

KRR Miss Elba 8B Exhibited by K-Rod Kattle, Wyoming, ON

7th - Pinerille Farms 8th - T & T Maines

Progeny of Dam

3rd - Gilcroft Farms

4th - Truray's Farm









Photos courtesy of Sonya Whitaker

2013 FARMFAIR GRAND CHAMPION MAINETAINER BULL :: 2014 FARMFAIR GRAND CHAMPION MAINETAINER BULL :: 2014 AGRIBITION GRAND CHAMPION MAINETAINER BULL

AMEN X DRR PAM 10P :: TH & PHA FREE BY PEDIGREE :: BW 82 LBS

DEER RIDGE RANCH



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Judge: Rob & Deanne Young, Breton, AB.

November 2014

Farm Fair International, Edmonton, AB

Females:

PB Heifer Calf Champion and Reserve

DJS Miss Fightin Irish 419B - Shuckburgh Cattle Co, Stettler, AB Smiths 44B - Kyle Smith, Wimborne, AB

FB Heifer Calf Champion and Reserve

Mel's Bently 41B - Mels Maines, Stettler, AB

PB Junior Female Champion and Reserve

Daisey Duke RDRL 45A - Deagle Cattle Co., Consort, AB DRR Absolut 37A - Deer Ridge Ranch, Dewberry, AB

FB Junior Female Champion and Reserve

Stenberg's Alisa 4A - Robert & Janice Stenberg, Alder Flats, AB DOK DRR Allie 3A - Deer Ridge Ranch, Dewberry, AB

Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Female

Daisey Duke RDRL 45A - Deagle Cattle Co., Consort, AB DJS Miss Fightin Irish 419B - Shuckburgh Cattle Co, Stettler, AB

Bulls:

Bull Calf Champion and Reserve

Mr Rusylvia Bennilli 6B - Rusylvia Cattle Co, Derwent, AB

Grand Champion Bull

Mr Rusylvia Bennilli 6B - Rusylvia Cattle Co, Derwent, AB

Maine Influence Show:

Maine Influence Heifer Calf Champion and Reserve

KKS Miss Fightin Irish 411B - Shuckburgh Cattle Co., Stettler, AB DRSS K2 101B - Dun Rite Stock and Stables, Bentley, AB

Maine Influence Junior Champion and Reserve

DRSS Legendary Princess 52A - Dun Rite Stock and Stables, Bentley, AB KKS Miss Fightin Irish 323A - Shuckburgh Cattle Co., Stettler, AB

Champion Mainetainer Female

KKS Miss Fightin Irish 411B - Shuckburgh Cattle Co., Stettler, AB

Maine Influence Bull Calf and Reserve

Smiths 49B - Kyle Smith, Wimborne, AB

GMC Ballistic 46B - Gilchrist Maine Cattle, Bluffton, AB

Maine Influence Junior Bull Champion

DRR Arctic Air 41A - Deer Ridge Ranch, Dewberry, AB

Champion Mainetainer Bull

DRR Arctic Air 41A - Deer Ridge Ranch, Dewberry, AB

Complete show results for all fall shows at www.maine-anjou.ca

FARMFAIR JUNIOR FUTURITY SHOW Overall Grand Champion Female

MISS RUSYLVIA AIN'T SHE PRETTY Riley Pashulka, Derwent, AB



Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Bull

Mr Rusylvia Bennilli 6B Exhibited by Rusylvia Cattle Co, Derwent, AB



Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Female

Daisey Duke RDRL 45A Exhibited by Deagle Cattle Co., Consort, AB



Champion Maine Influence Bull

DRR Arctic Air 41A Exhibited by Deer Ridge Ranch, Dewberry, AB



Reserve Grand Champion Maine-Aniou Female

DJS Miss Fightin Irish 419B Exhibited by Shuckburgh Cattle Co, Stettler, AB



Champion Maine Influence Female

KKS Miss Fightin Irish 411B Exhibited by Shuckburgh Cattle Co, Stettler, AB



Rusylvia Cattle Co., Derwent, AB

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Melfort, SK email: mspratt @sasktel.net

Maine-Anjou Show Judge: Wade & Heather Brokenshire, Bienfait, SK

November 28, 2014

CWA Maine-Anjou Show, Regina, SK.

Percentage Females:

Heifer Calf Champion and Reserve

TCF 727X Curly Jane 4B - The Cliffs Farm/Cody Sibbald, Saskatoon, SK W5 Blossom 10Z- W-5 Livestock, White Fox, SK

Junior Female Champion and Reserve

Miss Ruyslvia Ain't She Pretty - Rusylvia Cattle Co. Derwent, AB Donaro Twizzler 169A - Donaro Farms, Melfort, SK

Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Percentage Female

TCF 727X Curly Jane 4B - The Cliffs Farm/Cody Sibbald, Saskatoon, SK W5 Blossom 10Z- W-5 Livestock, White Fox, SK

Percentage Bulls:

Grand Champion Percentage Bull

DRR Artic Air 41A - Deer Ridge Ranch, Dewberry, AB

Females:

Heifer Calf Champion and Reserve

Miss Velvet - AshLynn Duffy, Lacombe, AB

LSCC Karisma 35B - Lightning Strike Cattle Co., Grenfell, SK

Junior Female Champion and Reserve

RRRC Erica 283A - Kody Roddick, Wyoming, ON

Donaro Ally 150A - Donaro Farms, Melfort, SK

Senior Female Champion

LSCC Daddy's Lil Lady 9162W - Lightning Strike Cattle Co., Grenfell, SK

Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Female

RRRC Erica 283A - Kody Roddick, Wyoming, ON Donaro Ally 150A - Donaro Farms, Melfort, SK

Bulls:

Bull Calf Champion and Reserve

Mr Rusylvia Bennilli - Rusylvia Cattle Co., Derwent, AB KRR Here Comes the Boom 2B - Kody Roddick, Wyoming, ON

Junior Bull Champion

KSIX Wingman 2A - Hansen Livestock, Weldon, SK

Grand and Reserve Grand Champion Bull

Mr Rusylvia Bennilli - Rusylvia Cattle Co., Derwent, AB KSIX Wingman 2A - Hansen Livestock, Weldon, SK

Get of Sire

Lightning Strike Cattle Co., Grenfell, SK

Breeders Herd

Lightning Strike Cattle Co., Grenfell, SK

Premier Breeder & Exhibitor

Lightning Strike Cattle Co., Grenfell, SK.

CWA CANADIAN JUNIOR BEEF EXTREME Reserve Champion Commercial Female

> MISS RUSYLVIA AIN'T SHE PRETTY Riley Pashulka, Derwent, AB



Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Bull
Mr Rusylvia Bennilli

Rusylvia Cattle Co., Derwent, AB Additional Owner: Tyson Pashulka, Derwent, AB



Reserve Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Bull KSIX Wingman 2A

Hansen Livestock, Weldon, SK



Champion % Maine-Anjou Bull DRR Artic Air 41A

Deer Ridge Ranch, Dewberry, AB



Agribition 2014

Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Female

RRRC Erica 283A Kody Roddick, Wyoming, ON



Reserve Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Bull Reserve Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Female

Donaro Ally 150A Donaro Farms, Melfort, SK



Champion % Maine-Anjou Female

TCF 727X Curly Jane 4B The Cliffs Farm, Saskatoon, SK Additional Owner: Cody Sibbald, Saskatoon, SK



Champion % Maine-Anjou Female W5 Blossom 10Z

W-5 Livestock, White Fox, SK



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Heifer on
offer at the
Sale!



3rd Annual Maine Difference Bull Sale

March 28th, 2015 1 p.m.

Dryland Cattle Trading Corp, Veteran, Alberta

Visit our website for a catalogue in March



2015 January 22-24, 2015



2015 GRAND CHAMPION RANCHER'S CHOICE Mr. Rusylvia Bennilli 6B

Exhibited by Rusylvia Cattle Co., Tyson Pashulka, Derwent, AB.

Congratulations to Rusylvia Cattle Co! Ken & Josie, Tyson, Riley and Taylor Pashulka Mr Rusylvia Bennilli 6B was selected the 2015 Grand Champion Rancher's Choice Bull over all other breeds. Owned by Tyson Pashulka and Rusylvia Cattle Co., of Derwent, AB. Bennilli, a purebred Maine-Anjou bull sired by GVC SUH 01W and a Mr Rusylvia Predator 1Son daughter has had a very successful fall show season - Grand Champion Maine-Anjou Bull at Farm Fair, Edmonton, AB, Canadian Western Agribition, Regina, SK and Grand Champion Rancher's Choice at Canadian Bull Congress, Camorse, AB.

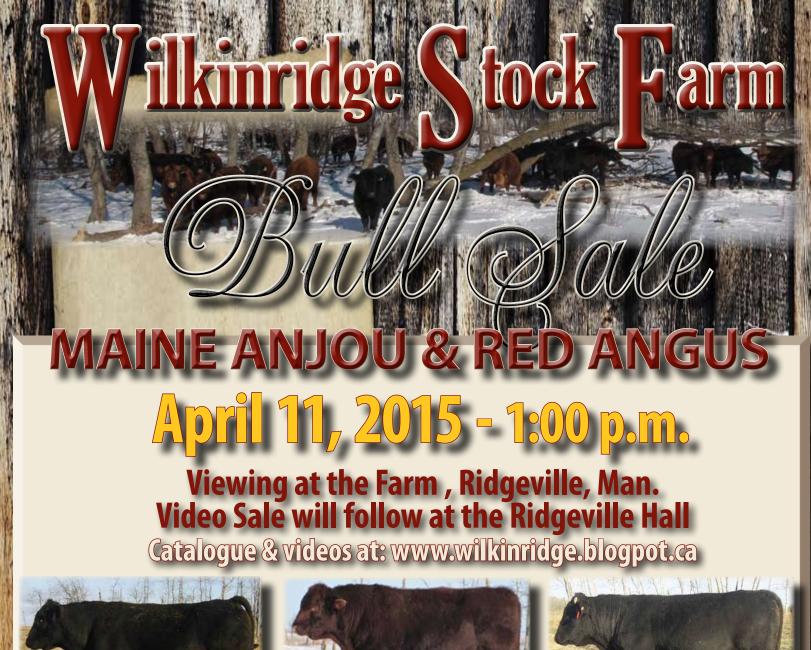
Bennilli also won the Tullamore Premier Show of Ireland Gold Medal presented by the Tullamore Show Secretary from Ireland. Every year a group of Cattle Breeders from Ireland come to the Canadian Bull Congress to select different genetics. Ireland has numerous shows and all the top animals come to the Tullamore show to try and win the Gold medal. It's presented to the top bull and female. The secretary of the show came with the delegation to Camrose and one of the panel of judges was a cattlemen from Ireland. When Bennilli won, Tyson was presented the Gold Medal from them along with the Bull Congress prizes. He is the first Canadian animal to ever receive this prestigous award!



Tyson Pashulka presented with the Tullamore Premier Show Gold Medal













MAINE BULL SIRES Including: Riptide, Rusylvia 34X, Cee Farms 43X, Black Canadian

Guest Consignor: Cliff Graydon

CHAROLAIS

For more information SID WILKINSON (204) 373-2631 ph • 324-4302 cell



On September 30, 2014, at the age of 67 years, Mr. Billy Gordon Ambler of Mallaig went to be in the arms of Jesus. He is survived by his loving wife, Alice; son, Randy (Renae) of Mallaig; 2 daughters, Cheryl (Rick) Rosychuk & Joy, both of Mallaig; 3 granddaughters, Sheridan, Katelynn & Hannah; sister, Dorothy (Clarence) Johnson of Mallaig; brother, Clifford (Shirley) of Mallaig; numerous nieces & nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, Alfred & Katrenia Ambler.

Bill was a longtime Maine-Anjou Breeder and recieved the Alberta Maine-Anjou Association Commercial Breeder of the year in 2004. Bill bought bulls from many different breeders in the breed and enjoyed traveling to Agribition and Farmfair to watch the shows and select breeding animals.

FARMFAIR INTERNATIONAL Junior Scholarship Recipient Tyson Pashulka, Derwent, AB.





Congratulations to Helen Hanbidge, daughter of John Hanbidge and Ann Dzus, Magpie Maines, Saskatoon, SK on her recent proposal. This picture was taken from 2500 feet in the air where future son-in law Jess Spies proposed. John is hopefull that some Maine-Anjou cattle will make their way to the southwest corner of Saskatchewan! Best wishes to Helen and Jess!

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In 2011 he was the Canadian Western Agribition Maine-Anjou calf champion and the Grand Champion Maine-Angou Bull at Canadian Western Agribition for 2012 and 2013.

Fairland Cattle Co has never offered Yessir 5Y genetics for sale to date, and only decided to sell a limited quantity of semen packages due to overwhelming interest in this exceptional bull.

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Canadian Maine-Anjou Association Notice of Annual Smeeting

AUGUST 7-9, 2015 Lloydminster, SK

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AND MANITOU MAINE-ANJOU

How do you go from this?



I have had Maine-Anjou for over thirty years. Their easy temperament, good milking and mothering abilities has given me a core herd that is easily managed. I chose easy calving bulls, which combined with these good mothers produce good weaning weights. After the BSE crises, I started a finishing operation that I continue to this day. Having a birth to finish operation gives me the unique opportunity to know the carcass yields of each animal. The large frame, well-muscled animals produce a premium carcass that is sought by the consumer. I do not use hormones to finish; I have always felt that with the good genetics of Maine-Anjou bulls the growth rate is not compromised. All four of my daughters have competed in 4-H and we have found that the Maine-Anjou steers and heifers are calm, finish well in the 200 days that they are given and compete well in the confirmation aspect of the competition.

Derek & Lois Benedict and family Wimborne, Alberta

To This?



Canadian Maine-Anjou Association









TRICKS TO GRAFTING A CALF

by Roy Lewis DVM

Since the beginning of time a common procedure in spring calving is cross-grafting calves onto surrogate mothers. It used to be calves were bought from dairies but you do run the risk of exposing your herd to infectious organisms not present in it such as scours. With a lot of the exotic breeds such as Maine Anjou twinning can reach the 5 to 8% range with many cows twinning year after year. This leaves an ideal opportunity to steal one twin (provided both were born alive) and get it sucking on a foster mom. The cow is thus productive and most beef cows only have enough milk for one growthy calf anyways.

The ideal time to graft is right at birth if the cow has not had the chance to lick her dead calf. Most producers will have the twins close at hand so they can immediately be thrown in with their new mother. It's easiest to rub the afterbirth or fetal fluid of the cow all over the calf to change the scent and leave a large amount draped over the calf. This will usually fool even the wisest of cows. Heifers are generally easier to fool than the wise multiparous cow but placing the pair together in a small pen is helpful. Watch for the telltale signs of bunting or kicking indicating the match is not going well.

Often mothers do not accept one twin as well so if you need to keep them together keep in a small area. Once turned out it is likely to be abandoned. Fortunately twins do get very inventive at stealing from other cows. They usually suck from behind while the cow's own calf is nursing.

In cows, which are hyper, or with young heifers mothering can even be a problem on their own calf. This is where a few handfuls of grain placed over the calfs back or the use of a commercial product "CALF CLAIM". Some producers use a perfume like product over the calf and up and around the cows nose to trick their scent. One of the most common causes of death for young calves on large ranches is abandonment especially if many are calving in a small area. It is easy for young heifers to get mixed up as to whose calf is theirs. I have seen hobbles used for several days to allow the grafted calf to suckle a hyper cow.

If older calves die and grafting is desired the situation becomes more difficult. It is best then to skin the dead calf and tie the hide over the new calf. This extra effort in skinning usually makes the grafting procedure go smoothly. Take the largest piece of hide over the midsection of the calf. It is not necessary to skin out the legs and neck. After a few days the smell will become great the hide will fall off and generally the grafting will be successful. Older calves can even be hog-tied for a short while. Their struggling and balling will attract the cow and may initiate bonding.

Often producers will keep over a few cows, which are really culls but were pregnant when examined. Especially if these cows were bred early the opportunity may present itself to steal their calf and graft it on to a younger more productive cow, which has lost her calf. With twins, steal the calf the mother is not accepting as well or if this appears equal select the freemartin heifer in the case of mixed twins.

If your success twinning is getting way ahead of you several options are available. Bottle feeding till the opportunity arises, selling or leasing the calf to a neighbor, and having high producing nurse cows around will all benefit you. The nurse cows usually need some dairy blood in them and they can often raise 3 or 4 calves quite easily. These cows will usually let anything suck so grafting multiple calves onto the same cow is not a problem. If possible it is nice to have them calving early with their own calf so they are heavily producing when you need them. Some producers will purchase 3 teaters or slow milkers from a dairy for this purchase. A big CAU-TION here though is make absolutely sure the management of the dairy fits in close to what you are doing and get the cows early before calving is initiated. Isolate the cow and her calves for 2-3 weeks to minimize the spread of any disease. Talk to your veterinarian if there is anything he/she would recommend testing for before bringing a dairy animal onto your premise.

If purchasing a calf for grafting the same precautions apply. Make sure the management of the operation is similar to yours. Beef calves will return you a higher return the next fall. But be absolutely sure to isolate the pair for 2 weeks. The last thing you want to do is introduce scours into your herd with a calf purchase. Be absolutely sure the calf got a good suck of colostrum when first born. If at all possible try not to purchase calves off farm if you can possibly avoid it. Others may keep a cow milking in the hopes an extra twin will come along.

All these strategies allow utilizing twins and making productive cows out of ones destined to be culled.



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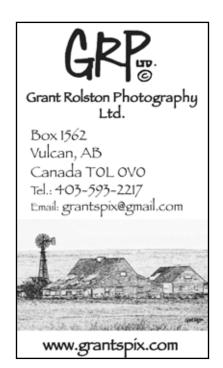
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UPCOMING EVENTS...

Mar. 18, 2015

The 'Maine' Bull Sale - SW Cattle Co./Wilson Stock Farm Online - www.teamauctionsales.com

Mar. 28, 2015

Deagle Cattle Co. - Annual Bull Sale Veteran, AB

Mar. 31, 2015

Genetic Destination Bull Sale - Lightning Strike/McCormack Family Ranch Grenfell, SK

Apr. 3-4, 2015

Foundations Fullblood Online Maine-Anjou Bull Sale CWC Maines/Stenberg Maine-Anjou/Wildberry Hills Millet, AB

Apr. 4, 2015

Douglas Test Station Bull Sale Badgerhill Maine-Anjou Online - www.cattleinmotion.com

Apr. 11, 2015

Wilkinridge Stock Farm Bull Sale Ridgeville, MB

Jun. 17, 2015

Last Chance Bull Sale Badgerhill Maine-Anjou Douglas Test Station, Douglas, MB Aug. 7-9, 2015

Canadian Maine-Anjou Association Annual General Meeting Lloydminster, SK

Sept. 18, 2015

Ontario Maine-Anjou Association Provincial Show Lindsay, ON

September 2015

Brothers From Different Mothers Steer Sale - Dun Rite Stock Farm Bentley, AB

Nov. 10-15, 2015

Northland's Farm Fair - Maine-Anjou Show Edmonton, AB

Nov. 23-28, 2014

Canadian Western Agribition Regina, SK

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