

Newsletter - Turihau Angus

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Turihau has been breeding Angus Cattle for over 100 years and one of its main selection criteria has always been phenotype. This has never changed. The other selection tools we now have available to us is a multitude of EBV figures for specific traits; the main ones being Calving Ease, Maternal, Fertility, Growth and Carcase Traits and DNA profiling for genetic gain. We are very mindful of the importance of these tools but believe they are a reflection of the genetic potential of any given animal and therefore should never be used without considering the phenotype and general structure of any animal.

Facebook Page



Check out our facebook page.

We update our facebook on a regular basis when there are key happenings, posting photos, videos, newspaper mentions and sale results. Like the page and the updates will appear on your news feed.

How are your Bulls Performing?

We hope that all your bulls have performed up to expectation and have done a great job getting cows and heifers in calf over the mating season. Please contact us if any issues arise.

We came across some stunning commercial Turihau Sires and Dams during our 2017 bull deliveries and would love to hear any good news, scanning results or striking sires that you are excited about.

TurihauANGUS

Breeding Excellence since 1906



2017 Bull Sale Reviews

Bull Sales were exceptionally strong in 2017 with a total clearance of 104 bulls across both the two year sale and the yearling sale.

It is pleasing to know that the type of cattle we are producing are exactly what our clients are wanting for commercial breeding operations; sound functional fertile cattle that will survive beyond the 3 year guarantee we offer.

Turihau sold 69 rising two-year-old bulls at auction with an average price of \$10,161. Six heifers were sold at an average of \$6,071.

Bloodlines to attract the most attention at the June sale were the sires Turihau Rex, Break, Mythology and Tangihau Regal.

We had the best yearling sale to date in September with all 28 bulls sold for an average of \$6,614 the highest in the country, well up on last year's average of \$4707.



Paul and Toby placing the lot numbers on the bulls pre sale



...the boys in the paddock



**3 YEAR
BULL
GUARANTEE
FOR FERTILITY
& SOUNDNESS**

We came across Turihau K390 Sire bull at Stoddart Farming Partnership in Porangahau last September

Turihaua Herd Sires



Turihaua Legend H142
Sire: Turihaua Liberation C27 Dam: Turihaua E158 DOB: 9/8/12



Turihaua Rex E297
Sire: Turihaua Texan B141 (ET) Dam: Turihaua B48 DOB: 4/9/09



Tangihau Highland H3
Sire: Stern 0778 Dam: Tangihau 903 DOB: 6/8/12



Turihaua Break D92
Sire: Turihaua Crumble Y167 Dam: Turihaua U170 DOB: 1/8/08

ET Cows for 2018

The Turihaua embryo transplant program continues to grow. A big thank you must go out to Ian Brown of Kiwi Stud Services who has been a vital part in achieving the excellent flushing results from our cows over the past 13 years. We wish Ian a happy retirement after selling his farm earlier in the year. We will continue to flush our very best cows in order to strengthen the cow herd (and offer the surplus bulls to our clients via the on farm sales) as well as keeping some embryos in storage as security for the future.

Five new cows have been selected E94, E118, E198, G362, H340, to join our top cows E153 and D267.



E94



E118



E198



G362

Diamond Beef

The last couple of months have been very exciting times at Turihaua and the team is proud to announce the launch of 'Diamond Beef NZ.'

It was sad to see the closure of the Gisborne Deli and Butchery last year after six years of selling quality Turihaua Beef and Lamb, but after another successful Steak of Origin campaign (Silver – Best of Brand) it was felt that Turihaua genetics are perfect for producing high quality, low input, grass fed beef.

For the past 18 months we have been working closely with Progressive Meats in Hastings, and been killing steers through the BN Ranch program into North America with great success. Under a low stress, high quality grass fed finishing system we have proven that our genetics have ample marbling and plenty of tenderness and flavour, all the ingredients needed to produce the finest Angus beef in the world.

Within the BN Ranch program we have had the opportunity to retain ownership of the scotch fillets and tenderloins (eye fillets), and market them under 'Diamond Beef.' This is a very unique opportunity to be able to offer our clients and the local Gisborne Community the chance to purchase and enjoy the quality of beef we are aiming to achieve.

Beef will be available in May from Eastland Veterinary Services, 743 Gladstone Rd, Gisborne. Alternatively an order can be made directly by contacting us or visit the website www.diamondbeef.co.nz.

Alongside BN Ranch we have been working very hard to establish an export market, this is where we see the true value. In order to achieve this we have teamed up with Paul Beamish, who will take control of all export enquires. He has done an excellent job in securing our first export shipment to Hong Kong in the coming weeks, with a monthly order already in place.

We see huge potential for our clients in being able to create our own 'Paddock to Plate' story. By reducing the amount of middle men involved and 'exposure' to the markets we aim to create more value for our beef.

Proven Turihaua sired steers with the 'Diamond tag' will be eligible to enter into the program, which means farmers must be meticulous at mating, making sure they know which cows or heifers are out with the Turihaua Bulls. In order to keep track of potential animals and make it easier for finishers and traders we have had the help of Zee Tags to develop a 'Diamond' tag (see image below).

We feel these tags are hugely important for the integrity of the brand, and will potentially play a big role in some of your management systems. Because we have stored DNA samples of all bulls sold since 2005 we have the ability to randomly select and sire trace any steer that comes through the system.

This process will ensure that only Turihaua sired steers are making it to the plate.

We currently have a small selection of commercial farms to source genetics from that only have Turihaua sires in their bull battery, making things simple for us at this stage. Other advice I have been giving clients is to mate by year group, this means, for example, putting two Turihaua bulls out with 80 R3 heifers, then at calf marking use our nominated Diamond tags to identify the steer progeny. The best and simplest option is to only use Turihaua sires!

These tags are free of charge and supplied by Turihaua. Please contact us for more information or if you would like to order some tags, alternatively Ross Dowling of Zee Tags will be present at the two year bull sale and you can place an order with him.

Our current demand is small, but we feel this is important to ensure that every animal we kill is up to the high standards we have set ourselves. We aim to grow this demand over the next 12 months, and are currently looking at other local trade opportunities. ...Watch this space.



DIAMOND
BEEF
TURIHAUA ANGUS



Australia Trip

On the 11th April John Meban, Hamish and I embarked on a very interesting Stud cattle tour from Sydney to Melbourne. This was a trip I had always wanted to do but never really had the time and felt that now was as good as any. So after a few days planning an itinerary and making a couple of phone calls, we were on our way.

Little did I know how difficult it was going to be navigating through the maze of road works around Sydney airport with two back seat drivers and a satnav yelling at me where to go. After three missed turns and one wrong hotel we finally arrived at our first destination, and considered

were at Ross Thompson's property, Millah Murrah Angus with the current drought similar to the famous one of 1983. The saving grace for most of the farms we visited was having quality water reticulation, silage and haylage saved and plenty of condition on the cows. Although there seemed to be very little feed around nearly all of the cattle we viewed were in excellent condition, testament to the constitution of the cattle and their



Cows and calves at Glengowan Angus, Bathurst

rumours flying around New Zealand breeding circles suggesting that the Australian herds had lost their structural soundness and phenotype in the chase for improving their EBV's, primarily IMF or marbling. After visiting 8 Angus studs, some of which calve over 3000 cattle, I can say that all three of us were thoroughly impressed with what we saw. In general the cattle had acceptable feet and legs, were quiet and had enough meat. We were still baffled at how the cows could be in such good condition when they are in the grips of a severe drought and after asking a few questions and looking up some cattle on breedplan we discovered that many cows had missed calves at some stage in their life.

Obviously there was plenty of variation within and between herds and we only saw a very small cross section of what the country has to offer. This does not mean we are going to change our breeding objectives but definitely feel there may be an opportunity to pursue some new genetics in the near future.

ourselves lucky that it was midnight and traffic flows were very low. Had it been rush hour we may not have even made it.

After driving through the Blue Mountains and a couple of quick photos, we arrived in Bathurst. We were shocked at how dry things

ability to put weight on and hold it at certain times of the year.

The main reason for our visit was to see how 'high performance' or 'carcass' cattle are performing, as they have a direct impact on the Australasian breed plan EBV's which we are part of. There are many



Millah Murrah Kingdom \$150,000 Record price bull

Biosecurity on Farm

The recent outbreak of *Mycoplasma bovis* has highlighted the importance of on-farm biosecurity. When visiting us please ensure you have clean footwear and vehicles are not carrying fresh muck or vegetation. This will help reduce the risk of spreading weeds, pests and diseases onto our farm and across our country.

The East Coast Region is *Mycoplasma Bovis* Free. Please help us keep it that way.

Turihaua Station Fertiliser, Soils and Pastures. Producing Beef that is good for you.

Written by Dr. Phillip Schofield Abron

Since 2010 Turihaua station have used an Abron fertiliser programme that aims at improving soil function and soil health while supplying nutrients that ensure optimal pasture production.

We improve soil biological activity using lime based fertiliser blends that include trace elements and biostimulants which stimulate soil bacteria and fungi and facilitate the supply of all the necessary vitamins and minerals required by pastures to produce highly palatable, nutrient dense forage for the grazing animals.

Over the years our monitoring at Turihaua demonstrates that the soil structure has improved, pasture root systems are significantly bigger and deeper, earthworm numbers have increased and the brix of the pasture plant sap has increased from 7 to 8 in 2010 to 11 to 12 in 2018. Improved nutrient density (high brix measurements) in the forage consumed by Turihaua cattle result in lowered nitrate levels in the urine and thus a reduced impact of the farming operation on the groundwater and surface water from the farm. Similarly the fertiliser programme maintains a moderate soil P status and uses only insoluble forms of phosphate thus reducing the P loss to water from the farming operation. Another consequence of feeding nutrient dense (and more palatable) forage to Turihaua livestock is the tendency of high Brix forages to result in higher proportion of Omega 3 fatty acids than Omega 6 fatty acids. Traditional human diets (before the green revolution of the last 60 to 80 years) had about 1:1 Omega 6 to Omega 3 fats. Modern diets based on processed foods contain much more omega 6 oils and ratios of Omega 6 to Omega 3 are in the 15- 20:1 range.

The higher amounts of omega 6 unsaturated fatty acids in modern diets is thought to be linked to the increases in heart disease and other inflammatory disorders.

There is good scientific evidence that Turihaua beef is good for the people consuming it due to the healthy Omega 6:3 fatty acid ratio. Consumers can also be confident that the production system that is employed by Turihaua



Aron

results in soil regeneration rather than exploitation of the farm resources.

In summary Turihaua farm produce has been produced using a system that:

- Improves soil physical characteristics and thus water holding capacity so results in less flooding and less droughts.
- Reduces N and P loss to the surface water and ground water
- Sequesters more carbon in the soil than is generated by all production inputs. i.e. the farm produce has a nett positive greenhouse gas or carbon footprint.
- Results in impressively low Omega 6:Omega 3 ratios in its beef and lamb with the consequent good news for the long term health of the consumers.

Diamonds are a girl's best friend. Your girls deserve a diamond quality bull.



Contact Paul to discuss how our program can make your cow herd more profitable.

Telephone: 64 6 868 6709 Email: turihaua@gisborne.net.nz

Two Year Bull Sale 3pm 26 June 2018 | Yearling Bull Sale 1pm 26 September 2018

Turihaua ANGUS

www.turihaua.co.nz www.facebook.com/Turihaua

Environmental Initiatives

Over the last three years we have made progress riparian planting our water supply reservoirs and the Turihaua Stream. This was supported by funding from the Gisborne District Council through the Natural Heritage fund. We are currently focusing on fencing the water ways and encouraging natural regeneration, and trialling the use of natives to control bank erosion. Gisborne District Council helped us undertake a baseline fish survey last spring, with longfin eel, and a giant bully found. Overall stream health deemed poor shown by excessive snails and algae although this may be the result of low flows and a warm spring. We hope that long term the shading and filtering effects of planted riparian margins will improve this and we now have a baseline study for comparison.



Paul and Harriet Roil GDC preparing the fish traps

Supreme Heifer Challenge



The actual Turihaua Bull Hoof Trophy

Photo courtesy of Stephen Jones Photography.

The Second Supreme Heifer Challenge sponsored by Turihaua at the 2017 Gisborne Show gave local beef breeders an opportunity to display and compete commercial heifers from across the region. We had a fantastic turnout with 45 heifers on display from fifteen entries across various breeds. Each entry put up three heifers that were judged by John Knauf Kerrah Simmentals, Wairoa who assessed uniformity, temperament, conformation and phenotype. For the second time running Patrick Murphy from Whareopaia Station Tolaga Bay, won the competition with a pen of Angus heifers receiving the Turihaua Trophy bull hoof, and



Heifers in pens

the choice of \$1000 cash or \$2000 off his next Turihaua purchase. Second place was awarded to Puketoro Station, Tenant McNeil and third to Mangatoitoi Station, Chris Cave. We are looking forward to the competition again in October 2018.

Bull Unit Changes

The National Sale has been replaced by the PGG Wrightson Livestock National Video Sale with Bulls up for auction from the Bull Unit. This year, Paul is the associate judge of the Angus section.

Paddock viewing of all the Angus bulls - Tru-Test Angus Bull Unit, 641 Milson Line from 12pm Sunday 13th and from 9am Monday 14th.

Sale: Palmerston North Convention Centre, Monday 14th May 2018 at 4pm.

Steak of Origin

Turihaua had great success again at the 2017 Steak of Origin with a Turihaua sirloin winning 2nd Place in the in the Best of Brand Category. The 2018 Steak of Origin Grand Final taste test will be hosted by PGG Wrightson at the Mystery Creek Fielddays, in Hamilton in June. We have entered 3 steers and 1 heifer again this year.



Medal