



TURIHAUA —ANGUS— GISBORNE

Newsletter - Turihau Angus
No. 23 ~ AUTUMN/WINTER 2019

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The past year at Turihau Angus has been a busy and exciting one, with lots of new initiatives being explored and clarity gained around the Stud's long-term vision.

Firstly, thank you to everyone who has supported our programme, not just from last year's record sales but also the other endeavours that we pursue. It is truly an honour to be such an integral part of your businesses. The future of your herds is in our hands!

We have welcomed James and Nat Busby back to Turihau to join our small but passionate team. This is James third stint here and he brings renewed energy, along with extensive commercial farming knowledge, he is a great asset to the business. Owen and Dana Sidwell have been with us for 18 months now and really settling in to the Turihau way of life. With his background in the trades Owen is an absolute legend with his hands. Between our families there are 9 children living on Turihau so there is more of a focus on sustainability for the future generations. We are enjoying Turihau as our playground with lots of weekend adventures on the farm.

We are so excited that our beef is available for purchase locally. We are looking forward to trying slow cooked smoked Diamond Beef brisket at the June Bull sale prepared by Smokey Bros, Morere, and are already anticipating short ribs at the yearling sale. We are so wrapped that our perseverance and hard work into this venture is paying off.

Hamish and I recently had a fantastic week visiting bull clients and commercial stations in the deep South. This was invaluable to chat to clients and observe how well our genetics are doing in the Southland environment. Turihau bulls are proving to shift



extremely well into any environment. Some of the farms we visited that are practising regenerative farming provoked a lot of healthy and meaningful discussion. This is an area we would like to explore in more detail within our own farming system with support from Integrity Soils.

We welcomed our third son Charlie in November, he is a bright spark and adored by his brothers Max and Patch. We have a fabulous support team, allowing us to grow the business, explore new initiatives, while enjoying our boys.

We are really excited about this year's line up of bulls and are looking forward to catching up with you at the sale. We hope you enjoy this Autumn/Winter edition of the Turihau Newsletter.

Best Regards - Paul and Sarah

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.

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES



Riparian Plantings



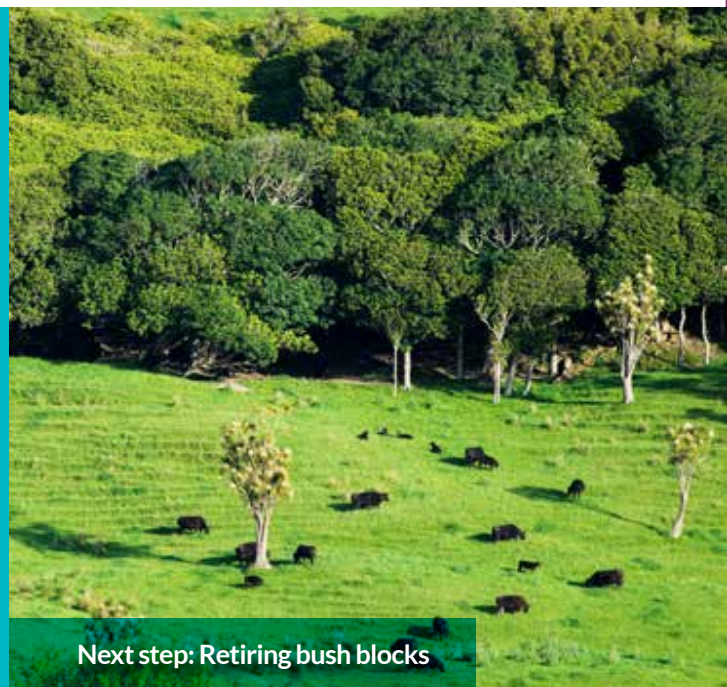
Water reservoir riparian margins planted in 2016

In order to raise biodiversity at Turihaua and protect our stream and Bay from high sediment loads, we have started to fence and plant the Turihaua Stream. Our initial approach has been to plant and stabilise the banks with natives with a 1 metre squared density and then a poplar every 10 metres. We are concerned that in stabilising the banks, during a flood event either the soft bottomed stream bed will deepen further under cutting the banks and the floodwater will spread further afield above and beyond the vegetation. Therefore our new approach is to fence the stream, and plant hardy manuka species with clusters of larger natives including kahikatea, totara, punga, and kowhai in appropriate locations away from the stream bank. There are a number of bush blocks in the catchment and in time natural regeneration will occur. Release spraying and plant pest control will be key going forward and, in the meantime, 'swales like' long grass will provide filtering of phosphorus and faecal matter. We are looking forward to the benefits of having established natives along the streambank. This improves biodiversity values, including shading of the stream to support its biota and the provision of a corridor between bush blocks for native birds. We are currently seeking funding through Trees that Count and the MPI One Billion Trees programme. We will be planting the trees with care and in regard to the specific species need and site conditions.

BIOSECURITY

At Turihaua Angus we take Biosecurity very seriously. Cattle are farmed in age groups with little mixing. We have a robust animal health plan with clear records of every animal's health history which is regularly audited by Assure Quality. None of our sale bulls have been grazed alongside or near dairy cattle. We have great relationships with our neighbours and have frequent open communication around managing stock on the boundaries. Any new stock brought on farm is quarantined and monitored for a minimum of 7 days.

At the bull sale we will expect all visitors to scrub and disinfect all boots prior to entry to viewing the bulls. We will endeavour to deliver as many bulls as possible with our own truck to reduce risk and when this is not possible, carriers will be used who have rigorous biosecurity procedures themselves.



Next step: Retiring bush blocks

DIAMOND BEEF



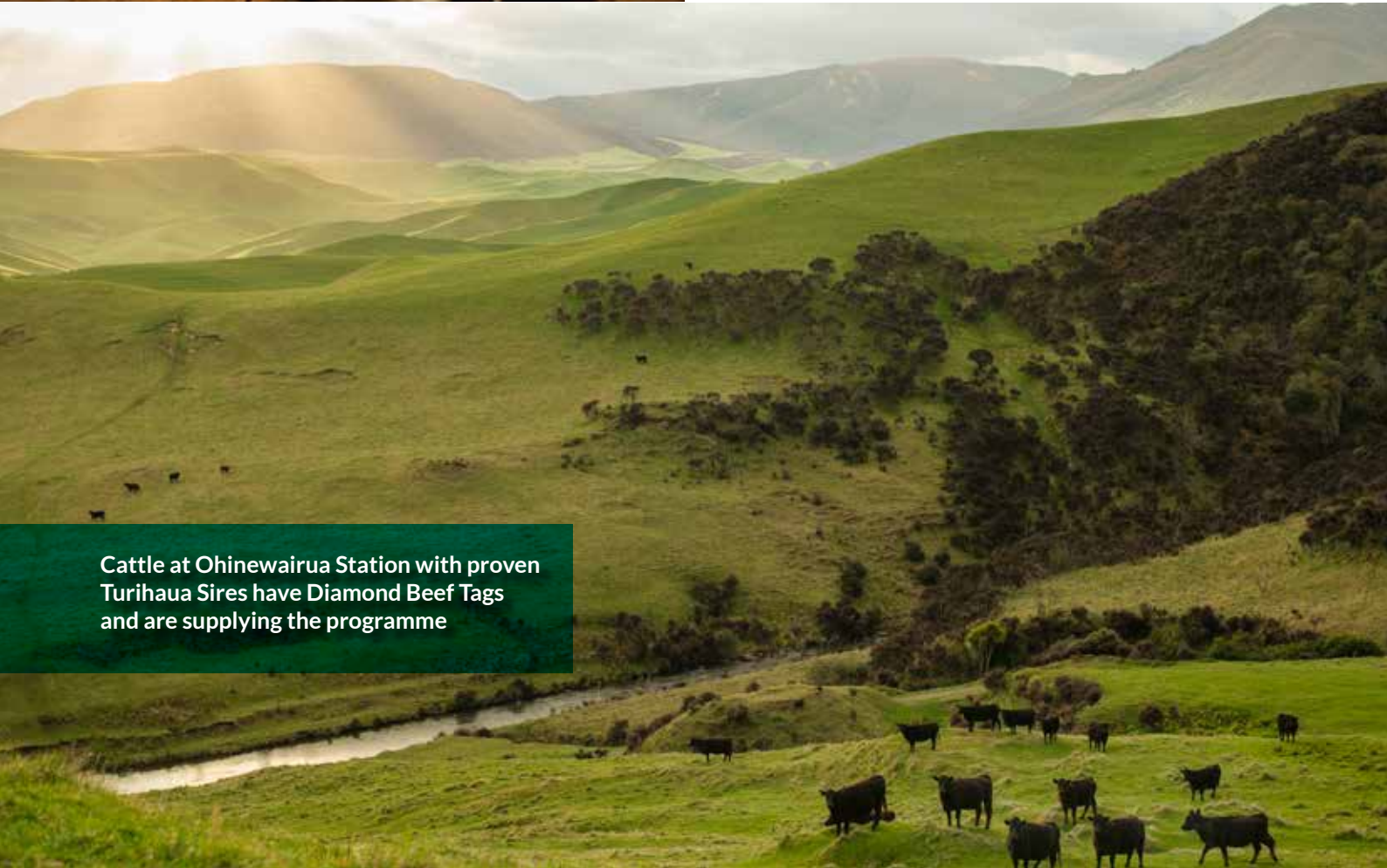
We are excited and proud to announce that “Diamond Beef” can now be purchased at the Village Butchery, Ballance Street, Gisborne.

It has always been a dream of ours to supply Turihaua beef locally and after the closure of the Gisborne Deli we have been working closely with Fletch Pickett, a local legend in the butchery trade, to coordinate the kill and get the carcasses back to Gisborne.



It was an easy decision to team up with The Village Butchery as they shared our vision of supplying world class, locally produced grass-fed beef, with an emphasis on sustainability and reducing our carbon footprint. The butchery has a long history as it has been trading quality meat for 106 years! Between us we combine for 219 years, now that's longevity.

Our contract in Hong Kong has been creeping along with three shipments to date being delivered, and another one in the pipeline. Exporting beef is a very challenging process. With the majority of the value only making up 14% of the carcass (steak cuts) it has been a huge job convincing our client to take whole carcasses, but with an expansion of their Hong Kong butchery into wholesale trade and a new restaurant opening up things are looking very positive for the future.



Cattle at Ohinewairua Station with proven Turihaua Sires have Diamond Beef Tags and are supplying the programme

BULL SALE REVIEWS

2018 was another record breaking year with clearance of ninety nine bulls sold across both the two year sale and the yearling sale. We had great commercial support from long established and new clients. This is a reflection of the even line of bulls that are bred for our commercial clients needs and farm environment coupled with the current optimism in the beef market. The top price for the June Sale of \$25,000 was paid for Lot 2, to be shared between Grampians Angus and Brackenfield Angus of North Canterbury, a bull with high growth and high fertility. Lot 12, a powerful bull was sold to Kay Jay Angus Stud, Wairarapa.

We had a cracker yearling bull sale late September with a total clearance of 25 bulls sold for an average price of \$7,584. This was the highest yearling sale average in the country. The top priced animal, lot 6, sold to stud for \$14,000, and was purchased by Waiterenui Angus Stud in Hawke's Bay. The yearling bulls are our heifer mating specialists and will keep their buyers on the front foot with their breeding programmes.

The June Sale was Stock Agent Steve Goldsbury's last auction at Turihaua Angus before retiring. His first job was at Turihaua in the early 80s. We are very grateful for his support and contribution over the past 30 years to the stud and commercial operation We wish him well in his retirement.



DIAMOND BEEF TAGS



Thank you to all supporters of the Diamond Beef tag initiative.

To date we have given out 2000 tags and it would be great to get a few more of you on board.

Proven Turihaua sired steers with the 'Diamond Tag' will be eligible to enter the beef programme, which means farmers must be meticulous at mating, making sure they know which cows or heifers are out with the Turihaua Bulls. 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. We are also hoping that Turihaua tagged animals will demand a premium at the cattle fairs in the future.

If you are interested in supplying Turihaua sired cattle for the Diamond Beef programme, 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. We will also have an option of printing your station name on the tags this year. This will give us more information about where animals have come from and which ones are achieving the best results. They will allow better identification of stock that may stray onto neighbouring properties.

Please contact us for an order form to secure yours for the season.



COW EFFICIENCY – WEANING 2019

Cow efficiency remains a priority at Turihau and with no framework from the Angus Association to be measuring, recording and analysing our herd, we continue to conduct our own research.

Russell Priest from AgriHQ defines beef cow efficiency as “the ratio of output (kilograms of calf weaned) to input (the amount of feed eaten).”

The ability to measure the amount of feed eaten is a major constraint in progressing research into cow efficiency in New Zealand. Accurate trials have been conducted in feedlot situations in Australia and USA but we feel the ‘environment factor’ has been removed, and this plays a huge part in how to measure efficiency. From our knowledge there is no practical way to measure dry matter intake in a beef cow grazing in the New Zealand pastoral system, therefore, it is more practical to measure production efficiency as total kilograms of calf weaned per kilogram of female.

A small analysis from information gathered at our 2019 weaning has reinforced many of our preconceptions, and revealed some interesting findings.

All data below has been collated from weaning 2019. All cows and calves are present including R2 heifers, the only exception being recipient calves. None of the figures have been adjusted for age, as we feel this penalises early cycling cows.

As we can see in Figure 1 there seems to be a very small correlation between cow weight and calf weight with heavier cows weaning slightly larger calves, but would you expect this difference to much bigger? If we now, consider Figure 2 there is a much stronger relationship in the data. It can be clearly seen that smaller or lighter cows will consistently wean a bigger % of their body weight, and as cows get heavier the % of calf they are able to wean decreases.

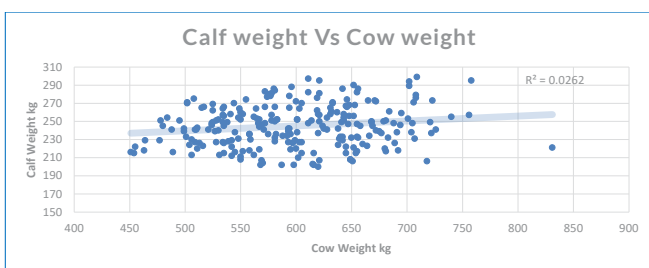


Figure 1: Calf weight in kg compared to the calf's dam weight in kg.

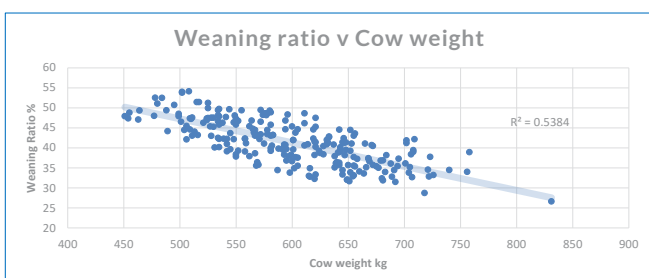


Figure 2: Weaning ratio (expressed as the percentage of weight weaned) compared to the calf's dam weight in kg.



This is the same result as a 1985 study that found smaller cows can wean more kilograms of calf per kilogram of feed than can larger cows. The same research group (Davis et al., 1983a) in a different study found that feeding larger cows a higher-energy diet did not sufficiently increase the number and total weight of calves weaned to offset the higher level of energy intake. In other words, supplying larger cows with more energy did not increase their production efficiency.

A larger cow can produce a larger calf, but her production efficiency may be less than optimal. In general, cows can be selected for improved efficiency in a certain environment, but they may not be as efficient in other environments (Ferrell and Jenkins, 1985). In an environment where feed resources are unlimited, larger cows may be able to offset the inefficiency by weaning larger calves. Generally however, in New Zealand grasslands where forage supply is often limited, larger cows are not as efficient as smaller cows.

It is reassuring to know that cow weight has a direct impact on weaning efficiency, and this finding reinforces the Turihau breeding objective of improving herd efficiency and reducing cow size. So what is the optimum? Obviously there is a tipping point, heifers that are too small could result in calving difficulties and carcass weight of finished animals is likely to be much lighter. There are so many variables to consider and test and this project is a work in progress.



Supreme Heifer Challenge

The Third Supreme Heifer Challenge sponsored by Turihau at the 2018 Gisborne Show was a huge success despite heifers being judged on farm due to M.Bovis concerns. Patrick Murphy of Whare-O Paia Station won the Turihau Trophy for the third time running, with judge Brent Anstis unaware of his previous success. This is a testament to Patch's animal husbandry and eye for quality genetics. 2nd place was awarded to Peter Hair and 3rd to Hamish Cave of Sunworth Station for his Hereford entry. We are looking forward to the 2019 challenge which is likely to be still judged on-farm. We encourage you all to enter – all breeds of cattle from the Gisborne region are accepted to enter the competition.



Steak of Origin

Turihau had great success again at the final 2018 Steak of Origin with a Diamond Beef scotch fillet winning 3rd Place in the in the Best of British Angus Category.

Unfortunately, the Steak of Origin will not be held in 2019.

Facebook Page



www.facebook.com/Turihau

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 newsfeed.

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

Turihau's diamond quality herd is bred with clear objectives targeting the traits that are hardest to measure:

- Fertility • Conformation
- Efficiency • Constitution

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

Two Year Bull Sale 3:30pm 25 June 2019
Yearling Bull Sale 1:00pm 25 September 2019

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