

Days Whiteface Annual Bull Sale 2014

The combined Days Whiteface and Allendale Poll Hereford bull sale at Bordertown last week produced a very good result and vote of confidence in these industry leading genetics. There was a big crowd that included 46 registered bidders who competed very strongly for the 75 high and very even quality bulls, wonderfully presented by both of the Day families.

The overall sale result saw 56 clear to a top of \$15,000 (x2) and average a very healthy \$5268, up 9% on last year's average. Four bulls sold for \$10,000 or better and there was a very competitive middle ground with 38% of those sold selling from \$5000 to \$10,000. However with such a large and quality offering there were also plenty of bargains, with 38% selling for the base \$3000 price.

The one disappointment, but a reality of the Australian beef scene at present, was a drop of 9% in the bulls sold. This was directly attributable to the drought effects in pastoral SA and north eastern states. In opening the sale, Days principal Lachy Day highlighted the boom times for a vast majority other beef exporting countries, the drought induced over supply currently affecting our markets; thus the longer term future looks very promising. There were no registrations from SA pastoral areas and with an average of seven bulls going to these areas in the previous four sales, that level of support would have brought the clearance above last year's result, on top of the stronger price result.

The overall sale result was evenly split between both studs, both clearing 28 bulls. Lachy & Lou Day's Days Whiteface averaged \$5196 in a 78% clearance.

The value of underbidders was fully exposed when David Sleight, Sleight Pastoral Co, Ruffey, Vic who purchased the \$12,000 sale topper in the 2010 sale, underbid one of the \$15,000 Allendale bulls and then a youngster later in the catalogue from the Days draft that went for \$7000 to KH and WR Ingram, East Gippsland. Without a successful purchase he strongly contributed to a \$19,000 result for two bulls.

The opening run of six bulls came from the Days Whiteface offering and these got the sale off on a top note, averaging \$7250. Included were the two top sellers for Days Whiteface for the entire sale.

Chris England, The Snuggery, Kingston, a regular supporter of these bloodlines outlaid \$9000 through Elders Kingston's Nick Downward for Days Whiskey H68, an impressive son of A Tipperary D13.

The last of the six was Days Drifter H9 (Twin) (P) by the great sire A. Waterhouse D1. This bull was purchased for \$11,000 by Nick, Paul and Kip Laucke, Merrina stud through Elders Bordertown. Used in the Days stud, Drifter is in the top 1% of the breed for 200 day weight and the top 5% for 400 and 600 day weight, carcass weight, EMA and all indices.

A Waterhouse D1 has a hugely successful breeding record at Days Whiteface, including the record \$90,000 at Dubbo last June. His eight sons in this sale catalogue sold for an average of \$5875, 11% above the sale average.

Also going to bull breeding programs were two other bulls from the Days draft. The Russell family, Russlyn stud, through LMB Linke, Hamilton paid \$8500 for Days Demonstrator H107, while Jennings Bros, Gawler paid \$4000 for Days Debonair H191.

Volume and mainly repeat buyers were the backbone of the strong middle ground bidding. Three buyers purchased four bulls each, another five purchased three bulls each and a further four purchased two bulls each. Murray, Andrew and Katie Stoney, 'Ellingerin' and buying through HF Richardson, Geelong were

strong bidders on many of the top bulls before successfully purchasing four bulls from \$5000 to \$6000, with three coming from Days.

Probably the longest serving client of both these studs has been the Mould family, formally from Emu Springs, Tintinara. Tim and Megan and family have relocated to the Casterton area and are now trading as Haavmi Enterprises P/L (named from a combination of their children's names). They also purchased four bulls from \$3000 to \$5000, two from each stud.

Shiloh Park, through Ray White Keatley, Mt Gambier also picked up four bulls from \$3000 to \$8500, including one from Days.

Other prominent buyers included Benara Pastoral, through Ray White Keatley Mt Gambier (three from \$3000 to \$6000, including one Days); Mahkwallok East Pastoral through Landmark Ararat (three from \$3000 to \$6500, including two Days); Ross and John Young through Landmark Millicent (three from \$3000 to \$4500, including two Days); Jeff McCallum, Willochra Props through Landmark Melrose (two also at \$7000 and \$3000, one from each stud); Kaloomah Herefords through Elders Alexandra (three bulls, including one Days, all at \$3000); and Harlock Pastoral through TDC Penola (a Days bull for \$8500).

Dhuramein Nominees through Rodwells Deniliquin (one Days bull for \$5000) and Grossy Mountain Partnership, through Landmark Dubbo (one Days bull for \$8000) were NSW purchasers from the Days draft. Victorian buying support over the whole offering was very strong, with 50% of the bulls sold going to buyers in that state. 5% went to New South Wales and the balance (45%) went to South Australian buyers.

Sale agents: Elders and Landmark

Auctioneers: Ross Milne (Elders), and Malcolm Scroop and Gordon Wood (Landmark)



This \$11,000 top priced lot from the Days Whiteface draft was purchased by the Laucke Merrina stud, Bordertown. Also pictured are auctioneers Malcolm Scroop (Landmark) and Ross Milne (Elders), Days Whiteface principal Lachy Day, and purchasers Nick and Paul Laucke.