

# Brahman genetics dominant

## COMMERCIAL CATTLE

**B**RAHMAN genetics dominated the winners' circle in the Commonwealth Bank Agribusiness Australian Beef Cattle Championships, with seven of the 12 class winners featuring at least some element of Brahman content in their cattle.

From straight Brahman to Braford, Simbrah and Charbray, the Bos Indicus influence was obvious among the more than 2000 cattle entered in this year's competition.

Commercial Simbrah breeders, Reg and Janelle Cooke, Warrenlea, Moura, were overwhelmed when they won grand champion pen with their champion male grain/lot fed pen, as well as champion pen of grainfed heifers, and best lot feeder awards.

Their grand champion pen of 10 Simbrah steers weighed in at an average of 611kg, and had been on corn ration feed for 149 days at their own 499-head feedlot at Moura.

The steers snagged the top prize of the competition after winning class 8 for steers 560-740kg, milk teeth only, minimum 100 days on grain and suitable for the Japanese market.

Meanwhile the Cookes' champion pen of 12 grainfed heifers weighed in at an average of 477kg and claimed the broad ribbon after winning class 10 for heifers 350-560kg, maximum two teeth, minimum 60 days grainfed and suitable



**A family affair:** Pictured with the champion pen of grassfed females at Beef 2009 were the exhibitors, the Wilson family of Banana Station: Annie Donogue and Georgia, Layla, Richard, Belinda, Walter and Mark Wilson.

for local trade.

Mr Cooke's parents, Barry and Doreen Cooke, Tharlane, Miles, were the first producers to start breeding Simbrahs in Queensland and they too

tasted success in the competition, with a pen of 10 of their Simbrah steers winning class 9 for steers 360-640kg, maximum two teeth, minimum 70 days on grain and suitable for local trade.

In the grassfed section, the major prizes were divided between Rodger Jefferis, Elrose, Cloncurry, and the Wilson family, Banana Station, Banana.

Mr Jefferis' pen of 10 Brahman steers, weighing 658kg, initially won the class for steers weighing 560-740kg, with a maximum of four teeth, before being judged champion male crop or pasture fed pen.

The steers were bred on Mr Jefferis' northern-most property and came down to Moura as weaners where they have been on irrigated leucaena and buffel grass.

Another pen of pure Brahman exhibits entered by Elrose Enterprises also performed well in the grainfed section, taking third place in the 560-740kg, two to four tooth, minimum 100-day grain class.

The Wilson family's Banana Station

was a worthy winner of the award for most successful exhibitor after claiming two class victories and two second places, in what is easily one of the toughest and hardest to win prime cattle

The Wilson family was a worthy winner of the award for most successful exhibitor.

competitions in Australia. Their exhibits claimed first place in the Japanese market class for crop or pasture fed pen of steers, 560-740kg, 4-6 tooth; first place in the export market class for a pen of crop or pasture fed heifers weighing over 450kg and a maximum six teeth; second place in the local trade class for crop or pasture fed pen of 10 steers, 380-640kg, maximum two teeth; and second in the local trade class for pen of crop or pasture fed heifers weighing 360-520kg with a maximum of two teeth.

The pen of pasture or crop fed heifers that won the class for heifers weighing 450kg up to six teeth then went on to be judged the grand champion pen of grassfed females.

The Banana Station cattle herd has been developed up from a British breed base over the past 30 years to include several genotypes designed to maximise the herd's productivity in the Central Queensland environment, according to Richard Wilson, who was among the



Reg and Janelle Cooke, Warrenlea, Moura, were overwhelmed when their Simbrah exhibits won the awards for grand champion pen, champion male grain/lot fed pen and champion pen of grainfed heifers. The Cookes were also named best lot feeders of the competition.



Rodger and Grant Jefferis, Elrose Enterprises, Cloncurry, exhibited the champion pen of grassfed steers at the Beef 2009 commercial cattle championships.

## Australian Beef Cattle Championships results

**Grand champion pen & champion male grain/lot fed pen:** RJ & JS Cooke, Moura - Simbrah.

**Champion female grain/lot fed pen:** RJ & JS Cooke, Moura - Simbrah.

**Champion male crop/pasture fed pen:** Elrose Enterprises, Cloncurry - Brahman.

**Champion female crop/pasture fed pen:** Banana Station, Banana - crossbred.

**Most successful exhibitor:** Banana Station, Banana.

**Best lot feeder:** RJ & JS Cooke, Warrenlea, Moura.

## COMMERCIAL CATTLE

**Class 1 - pen of 10 steers 560-740kg - crop or pasture fed, 4-6 teeth only:** 1 Banana Station, Banana, crossbred; 2 Murray Smith, Middlemount, Droughtmaster-cross; 3 Murray Smith, Middlemount, Droughtmaster-cross.

**Class 2 - pen of 10 steers 560-740kg - crop or pasture fed, maximum 4 teeth:** 1 Elrose Enterprises, Cloncurry, Brahman; 2 KD & KL McKenzie, Blackwater, Droughtmaster; 3 Banana Station, Banana, crossbred.

**Class 3 - pen of 10 steers 380-640kg - crop or pasture fed, maximum 2 teeth:** 1 Elrose Enterprises, Cloncurry, Brahman;

2 Banana Station, Banana, crossbred; 3 GJ & DC Arnel, Baralaba, Brahman.

**Class 4 - pen of 10 heifers 450kg+ - crop or pasture fed, maximum 6 teeth:** 1 Banana Station, Banana, crossbred; 2 RJ & RA Nobbs, Moura, Charbray; 3 DR Geddes, Springsure, Brangus.

**Class 5 - pen of 12 heifers 360-520kg - crop or pasture fed, maximum 2 teeth:** 1 Burleigh Estates, Bioloela, Santa Gertrudis; 2 Banana Station, Banana, crossbred; 3 Five Star Senepol, Jambin, Senepol-cross.

**Class 6 - pen of 18 vealer steers 220-320kg:** 1 LT & ME Acton, Gogango, Braford; 2 Woarabinda Pastoral Co, Duaringa, Charbray/Droughtmaster; 3

Olive Brahmans, Gogango, Brahman.

**Class 7 - pen of 10 steers 560-740kg - minimum 100 days grainfed, 2-4 teeth only:** 1 A Rea & Co, Bowen, Droughtmaster; 2 HR, CB & SR Hatton, Chinchilla, Santa Gertrudis; 3 Elrose Enterprises, Cloncurry, Brahman.

**Class 8 - pen of 10 steers 560-740kg - minimum 100 days grainfed, milk teeth only:** 1 RJ & JS Cooke, Moura, Simbrah; 2 Christmas Creek Cattle Co, Rolleston, Droughtmaster; 3 Yulgilbar Santa Gertrudis, Baryulgil, Santa Gertrudis.

**Class 9 - pen of 10 steers 360-640kg - minimum 70 days grainfed, maximum 2 teeth:** 1 BJ & DM Cooke, Miles, Simbrah; 2 KD & KL McKenzie, Blackwater, Droughtmaster; 3 BJ & DM Cooke, Miles, Simbrah.

Droughtmaster; 3 BJ & DM Cooke, Miles, Simbrah.

**Class 10 - pen of 12 heifers 350-560kg - minimum 60 days grainfed, maximum 2 teeth:** 1 RJ & JS Cooke, Moura, Simbrah; 2 T & L Olive, Marlborough, Charbray; 3 Hutchinson Farming, Theodore, Charbray/Droughtmaster-cross.

**Class 11 - pen of 10 steers 500-740kg - grain or pasture fed, maximum 4 teeth:** 1 Dangarfield Cattle Co, Taroom, Santa Gertrudis; 2 Angus Pastoral Co, Clermont, Belmont, Angus; 3 Codrilla Pastoral Co, Nebo, Romagnola/Brahman-cross.

**Class 12 - pen of 10 heifers 500-740kg - grain or pasture fed, maximum 4 teeth:** 1 RJ & RA Nobbs, Moura, Charbray.

Congratulations to all our vendors who competed at the 2009 Australia Beef Championships, and a big thank-you to the meat companies who supported the event.



Reg and Janelle Cooke, "Warrenlea" Moura

Winner of Best Lot Feeder

Grand Champion Pen of the Championships.

Pen of Champion Male Grain Lot Fed.

Winners of Class 8.

10 Simbrah steers sold for \$2.14 c/kg to Teys Bros, Rockhampton.

Pen of Champion Female Grain / Lot Fed.

Winners of Class 10.

10 Simbrah heifers sold for \$2.00 c/kg to Nolan Meats, Gympie.

Roger and Lorena Jefferis, "Elrose" Cloncurry from their property "Badminton", Theodore.

Pen of Champion Male Crop or Pasture Fed.

Winner of Class 2.

10 Brahman steers sold for \$1.88 c/kg to JBS Swift, Rockhampton.

Winners of Class 3.

10 Brahman steers sold for \$1.69 c/kg to JBS Swift, Rockhampton.

Barry and Doreen Cooke, "Tharlane", Miles.

Winners of Class 9.

10 Simbrah steers sold for \$1.92 c/kg to Nolan Meats, Gympie.

3rd place Class 9.

10 Simbrah steers sold for \$1.91 c/kg to Teys Bros, Rockhampton.

Bradley and Kerryn Piggott, "Christmas Creek", Rolleston.

2nd place Class 8.

10 droughtmaster steers sold for \$2.00 c/kg to Teys Bros, Rockhampton.

Gavin and Dianne Arnel, "Granville", Baralaba

3rd place Class 3.

10 Brahman steers sold for \$1.70 c/kg to Thos. Brothwicks, Mackay.

Hutchinson Families, "Warnoah" Theodore.

3rd place Class 10.

10 Charbray heifers sold for \$1.83 c/kg to Coles Supermarkets, Brisbane.

Olive Brahmans (Ross and Natalie), "Westgrove", Gogango.

3rd place Class 6.

18 Brahman vealer steers sold for \$1.79 c/kg to Bancilfee Farms, Moura.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR OTHER VENDORS.

Andrew and Tracey Simmons, "Woodine", Taroom. (Charbray)

Roger, Cheryl and Shane Hatton, "Muringha", Chinchilla. (Santa)

ANJO Partnership, "Wattle Glen", Moura. (Santa)

David and Lynn Anderson, "Tindara", Banana. (Brahman)

John and Jacklyn Amor, "Carinya" Dulacca. (Braford)

Larry and Beth Acton, "Riverton", Gogango. (Braford)

Scott and Lizette McCamley, "Lancefield Brahmans", Dululu.

Matthew and Janelle McCamley, "Eulogie Brahmans", Dululu

McGibbon Family, "Lillianvale Brahmans", Nebo

Colin and Linda Hewitt, Fairhaven Droughtmasters, "Fork Lagoons", Emerald

**Also participating Meat operators**

Teys Bros, JBS Swift Australia, Kilcoy Past. Co., Thos Brothwicks, Nolan Meats and Coles Supermarkets.

**Whether buying or selling head for the mighty Dawson, the home of the 2009 Champions.**

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