

Black Simmental Cow sets \$20,000 Australian Record at Brewers Dispersal Sale

Story and pictures courtesy Penny Watts, The Land.

BLACK Simmental females set a breed record at the dispersal sale, held at Wodonga, Victoria, of David and Tara Brewer's Brewers Simmental stud, Koetong, Vic, on November 30, reaching an impressive \$20,000 for a cow and calf unit.

The price tag was a record for a Black Simmental female, beating the previous record by \$13,000.

Local breeders, Sandra and Gary Schilg, Bywong Park Simmentals, Burrumbuttock, paid the top price for the 44-month-old cow, in partnership with Victorian breeder, Judy Brewer, Sylvandale Simmentals, Staghorn Flat. Vic.

Mrs Schilg, who runs a three year-old stud comprising 34 stud breeders and 76 commercial animals, said the frame and commercial adaptability of the unit attracted her.

"She's a medium-framed traditional Simmental with a deep body and a good bull calf at foot," she said.

"She's exactly the type of animal we're aiming to breed."

Mrs Schilg said she will be used in the stud and commercial herd and will be flushed this month and joined to US import, Lucky Man, a son of Lucky Charm.

"We'll then join her to another US sire, Red Simmental, BHR Crocket, to get rid of the white she's throwing," she said.

The autumn cow, nicknamed Daisy, was by Lucky Dice, a Black Simmental sire sourced from Gateway Simmentals in the US, and from home-bred cow, Brewers Daydream.

Mrs Schilg said she hoped to be selling the first drop of bulls from Daydream in two years~time.

The opportunity to buy some of the country's top quality GeneStar-tested genetics attracted buyers from five States – Queensland, NSW, Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia.

The sale featured 229 traditional and DNA-tested lots, which sold to an 83 per cent clearance for an average of \$2570.

In the breakdown, cow and calf units averaged \$3170, 12 of 36 bulls sold to a \$3250 ceiling to average \$2563, 64 heifers sold to \$7500 to average \$1949, while 27 of 32 cows sold to a \$4750 top and \$2269 average, and 11 heifers with calves a \$5000 ceiling and \$2682 average.

The Kitchen family, Bandeeka Black Simmentals, Elgin, WA, secured two Lucky Dice Black Simmentals, including January 2004-drop cow, Brewers Ophelia Z469 for \$11,000, and similar heifer, Brewers Gwen C069 for \$3000.

Stud and commercial Queensland breeder, Ashley Adams, "Darracourt", Blackall, Qld, was one of the main players at the sale, securing 36 lots, including young cows with calves, five joined traditional heifers, and seven DNA tested Red Simmental cows.

All lots secured by the repeat buyer had a GeneStar rating in tenderness, feed efficiency

and marbling to go back into his branded program, Tendabeef, which he runs with son, Ian.

Also travelling from Queensland were first-time buyers, brothers, Trent and Kurt Kammholz, "Brightview", Lockyer Valley. The brothers targeted the Brewers' red genetics and paid a \$4250 top and \$3031 average for eight female lots to use in their 120-breeder traditional Simmental program. '

Notable buyers included commercial vealer producers, Eric Harvey, and his sister, Rhonda Willson, "Gilgai", Guerie, who paid a top of \$2000, five times, to secure 28 lots and average \$1420.

The Harveys, who bought at the breeder's sale last year; secured mainly females with heifer calves at foot to use in their 150 pure Simmental and 130 Shorthorn/ Simmental enterprise.

Other volume buyers were, Three Rivers Grazing Company, Wodonga, who paid a \$7000 top for seven lots to average \$3178, and the Webb family, "Glenburn Park", Canterbury, Victoria, who paid a \$7500 top for 26 black Simmental lots.

The sale was conducted by Elders with auctioneers, Michael Glasser, and Ross Milne.



Sandra Schilg (right), "Bywong Park", Burrumbuttock, paid the national record for a Black Simmental female of \$20,000. with Judy Brewer, Sylvandale Simmentals, Staghorn Flat. Victoria. at the Brewers Simmental dispersal sale.

Ms Schilg is pictured with vendors. David and Tara Brewer. and their son. Austin, Brewers Simmental stud, Koetong, Vic.



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Top priced \$20,000 Black Simmental female