

Raff Angus claims Aust 'first' with Prime Star genetics

By PETER LOWE

FIRST progeny by an import AI son of the world's leading marbling sire, Gardens Prime Time, will be one of the star attractions at Andrew, Anna, David and Jill Raff's annual Raff Angus Female Production Sale, Mundibulanga, Drillham, on Monday, March 18.

Billed as the 'Pick of the Flush', the entire heifer portion of five sisters from what the Raff family consider to be the flush of 2012 – and sired by their new AI sire in O'Neill's Prime Star 80 – will be offered as lot 26.

These full sisters are granddaughters of Gardens Prime Time and a unique opportunity to access some of the best outcross carcass genetics without any New Design or Precision blood. In addition they are from one of their highest marbling cows and elite donor in Raff Doris E12.

"We consider this flush to be one of our best ever; the five heifers are the entire heifer drop and all show great potential," Andrew Raff said.

"While these heifers will only be six months old at sale time they will have a full set of MVPs (Molecular Value Predictions) for 16 traits.

"This is a real plus for HD50K, being able to get comprehensive data on an animal at such a young age."

Another highlight of the quality draft of 100 registered females and over 30 commercial heifers will be proven and potential donors such as Raff Burnette B126, the 2010 Sydney Royal grand champion Angus female which sells as lot 27.

Included in the catalogue which represents the best of 47 years of successful Angus breeding by the Raff family are 25 three-in-one packages with seven-month-old calves at foot – some of these calves are sired by Raff Empire E269, the multiple Royal interbreed champion and supreme Angus exhibit of Beef Australia 2012. Also a run of PTIC cows and heifers and some outstanding unjoined heifers



Feature lots at the Raff Angus Female Production Sale will include Raff Burnette B126, the 2010 Sydney grand champion Angus female which sells as lot 27. The outstanding matron is pictured with judge Guy Lord, Walcha, stud groom Kellie Skillington, Erica Halliday, Walcha and Andrew and David Raff, Raff Angus, Drillham.

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along with several pens of Raff APR joined heifers sired by full Hoff import bulls – the 'G' drop joined heifers represent outcross genetics to mainstream Australia. Another feature will be a superb

draft of commercial heifers on account of one of Australia's longest serving Angus seed stock producers and long-time Raff client, Joyce Hodgkinson, Wallangra Angus, Wandoan. Mrs Hodgkinson bought her first Raff bull in 1978.

Wallangra Angus will be offering three pens of 15-month-old, unjoined heifers as lots 93 to 95.

All Raff sale females will have a full set of MVPs including feed efficiency, feedlot daily gain and tenderness along with the standard performance information. A sale lots raw data information and

pregnancy status will be available just prior to sale.

The sale will start at noon and will be interfaced with AuctionsPlus. The Raff family will conduct their open day on Sunday, March 17, with all sale lots on display as well as a selection of breeders and some of their sires.

For information visit www.raffangus.com.au, phone Andrew Raff 0429 691975, email andrew@raffangus.com.au or scan the QR code.



Lawsons heading to Black Stump

THE largest Angus seedstock herd in Australia, Lawsons Angus, is heading to the annual Black Stump sale in Blackall.

With divisions in Goondiwindi, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia, the beef operation is one of the pioneers in performance recording and the adoption and use of Breedplan to assist in the selection of Angus cattle.

"Put simply, our job is to find the best six to 10 sires worldwide using our global network and our own progeny testing programs in Australia and multiply these out to breed more productive genetics for our commercial clients," Lawsons' stud principal Harry Lawson said.

"Apart from numbers, our competitive advantage is we make faster rates of gain through 100 percent AI and embryo transfer.

"Under our planned breeding program each cow is individually assessed and mated and it's not all just based on numbers (EBVs), you need to have a good understanding of other traits like structure, temperament, udders and maturity patterns."

The highly respected stud will open the annual Black Stump invitational sale with 16 highly fertile bulls (lots 1-16).

Bulls for the sale have been carefully selected on reproductive efficiency that isn't compromised when times get tough.

Telpara Brangus heifer sets record

AN Australian Brangus record price has been set by Telpara Hills, with the sale of a \$25,000 heifer.

Dean and Emmalee Jonsson purchased the female from Telpara Hills Brangus as part of a plan to improve their existing branded beef operation and develop their young Brangus stud at Wombinoos Station, Mt Garnet, North Queensland.

Wombinoos Station is already a thriving beef operation that uses Brangus genetics to improve their herd, with the station covering more than 65,000 acres (26,000ha).

Of their 5000 head of cattle, Dean and Emmalee harvest 14 head a week for sale under the Diamond 4 J brand at Jonsson's Farm Market store in Cairns, managed by Dean's parents Warren and Gail.

Perhaps best known for



Emmalee and Dean Jonsson celebrate the purchase of the \$25,000 AU record Brangus price female, Telpara Hills Miss Csonka 820G with Stephen Pearce.

their Jonsson's Farm Market store and potato farms, the family has a motto of 'Paddock to Plate' as they strive to provide a full range of high quality local produce.

One of only two MSA qualified butcher shops in North Queensland, Jonsson's Farm Market easily captures the sup-

ply chain while closely monitoring the quality of the beef and satisfaction of customers.

"Through the processing of past cattle off Wombinoos Station we have already seen firsthand the benefits of better genetics through the Brangus breed," Dean said. The purchase of the record price heifer,

Telpara Hills Miss Csonka 820G, as well as other stud heifers and embryos is part of Dean and Emmalee's plans to further improve their beef herd at Wombinoos.

"The new genetics have been bred by Telpara Hills for their carcass excellence as well as practical performance and, in time, we hope they will produce bulls which will be used over the Jonsson's existing Brangus and Santa-cross based herd."

Dean and Emmalee plan to use the Brangus genetics to meet the demand for high-quality, predictable Brangus bulls.

Telpara Hills Miss Csonka 820G is a full sister to the high-selling female at Telpara Hills' Elite Genetics Sale at Beef 2012, which went to the Hansen family of Oaklands Brangus. – Report supplied.

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60' x 40' x 12'	\$18,653	100' x 60' x 16'	\$45,689
60' x 40' x 16'	\$19,443	120' x 60' x 18'	\$54,326
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