

MINNESOTA SIMMENTAL

FALL 2011

News



SUPREME CHAMPION BREEDING HEIFER

Shown by Dana Kuelbs, Grey Eagle, MN
Sired by SS Ebonys Grandmaster

MINNESOTA SIMMENTALS

winning big!



RESERVE CHAMPION BREEDING HEIFER

Shown by Hunter Aggen, Harmony, MN
Sired by Triple C Invasion



MINNESOTA BEEF EXPO

OCTOBER 20-23

Minnesota
BEEF EXPO



SUPREME CHAMPION BREEDING HEIFER CHAMPION SIMMENTAL

Shown by Dana Kuelbs, Grey Eagle, MN
Sired by SS Ebonys Grandmaster



RESERVE CHAMPION BREEDING HEIFER CHAMPION FOUNDATION SIMMENTAL

Shown by Hunter Aggen, Harmony, MN
Sired by Triple C Invasion

RESERVE SIMMENTAL

Shown by Seth Kaehler, St. Charles, MN
Sired by Sandeens SOS

RESERVE FOUNDATION SIMMENTAL

Shown by Lucas Grass, LeRoy, MN
Sired by SP The Answer

Sale Results

The 2011 Minnesota Beef Expo was held October 20 - 23, 2011 at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul, MN. Exhibitors from the upper Midwest traveled to St. Paul for a weekend of power packed activities. The youth schedule included knowledge bowl, judging contest, showmanship and shows for prospect market calves, market beef and breeding heifers. The schedule also included educational seminars, All Breeds Sale including Supreme Row. 660 head of cattle were exhibited in the junior show with over \$10,000 of prize money being awarded.

This year's sale was a record selling one, grossing over \$300,000! The sale, held on Saturday, October 22, included a show, sale and Supreme Row selection with a sit-down dinner served to over 800 people.

GRAND CHAMPION SIMMENTAL



AJE Halo's Hallie Y43

SS Ebonys Grandmaster x AJE Jewels Halo
Open Purebred Simmental
Bred by AJE Cattle Company
Sold to Dan Fox, Rosemount, MN for
\$5,000

RESERVE CHAMPION SIMMENTAL



GLS Miss Alliance Y108

4WA Alliance 72 x OMF Miss SF T5
Open 1/2 SM 1/2 AN
Bred by Grass Lunning Simmentals
Sold to Brady Endres, Vermillion, MN for
\$2,800

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

ADRIENNE HILBRANDS



It is with great excitement and enthusiasm that I write this letter to you purely because I'm not sure if there has ever been a better time than right now to be a Simmental breeder. Multiple sectors within the beef industry are quickly beginning to realize what many of us have known for quite some time; that you just can't beat a good Simmental or Simmental-influenced animal! They flat-out work in a variety of environments under a multitude of conditions because of the variation that exists within our breed allowing each of us to select for the traits we want. Whatever you desire Simmental has got it. I hope that this diversity is something that we will always be able to offer the industry because it is this flexibility which has popularized our breed, from the club-calf sector to the commercial feeder marketing on a grid, and allowed us to fill each of these niches. Some might not agree with me but eventually things change, consumer demand changes, as does the environment and we too can use this pool of genetic diversity to serve as a vector for modifying our own cow herds when need be. Without diversity you lose your flexibility. My enthusiasm is guarded though in that this comes during a time that might not be easy for all. The economy is still in a slump, unemployment rates are up, consumer confidence is unstable and input costs continue to rise. Stewardship needs to be a forerunner in many of our thoughts not only on how to keep input costs down by utilizing all available resources and managing our land responsibly but also in consumer perception. It's important that we do what we can to maintain an optimistic image of the beef industry in the consumers eyes. Whether it be while we're out on the road attending a show or by volunteering to talk to kids at your local school or 4-H club! Do what you can to promote beef positively and educate others on what our industry is all about! Hope to see you all in February at the annual meeting!

Happy Holidays and God's blessings to you all in the new year!!!

Adrienne Hilbrands

MINNESOTA BEEF EXPO

Minnesota Youth Beef Experience Program

MN YOUTH BEEF EXPERIENCE PROGRAM - SIMMENTAL HEIFER



Recipient: **Shawna Loerzel of Richville, MN**

Simmental Heifer sponsored by:

Hillbrands Simmentals of Clara City, MN

AJE Cattle Company of Marshall, MN

Mel Boehland Cattle Company of White Bear Lake, MN

The purpose of this program is to aid youth in getting a start in the beef cattle business by awarding heifer calves to program participants on the basis of merit, need, future goals and ability to care for the animal. Any youth aged 12-16 who is a 4-H or FFA member may enter.

Program participants are selected by a committee, and the heifers are awarded at the Minnesota Beef Expo. The MYBEP Committee selects a minimum of nine program participants from the pool of qualified applicants. Each program participant owns their heifer jointly with the donor until the completion of the program, at which time the participant will receive full ownership of the heifer and her offspring. Each program participant is responsible for raising the calf, arranging for her to be bred (artificially or naturally), maintaining complete records on her care, and providing monthly progress reports to the owner and the Beef Expo.

Minnesota State Fair 4-H SHOW

CHAMPION FOUNDATION SIMMENTAL HEIFER - ALSO RESERVE SUPREME OVERALL HEIFER

Shown by Hunter Aggen, Fillmore County

RESERVE FOUNDATION SIMMENTAL HEIFER Shown by Lucas Grass, Mower County

CHAMPION PUREBRED SIMMENTAL SIMMENTAL HEIFER - ALSO CHAMPION SUPREME OVERALL HEIFER

Shown by Theresa Claeys, Fairbault County

RESERVE PUREBRED SIMMENTAL HEIFER Shown by Greg Claeys, Fairbault County

CHAMPION SIMMENTAL STEER Shown by Greta Tank, Washington County

RESERVE SIMMENTAL STEER Shown by Hunter Pankonin, Cottonwood County

CHAMPION SIMMENTAL COW/CALF PAIR Shown by Cassandra Hook, Redwood County

RESERVE SIMMENTAL COW/CALF PAIR Shown by Zachary Vernig, Mille Lacs County

Minnesota State Fair FFA SHOW

CHAMPION PUREBRED SIMMENTAL HEIFER Kenco Lady Remington | Shown by Theresa Claeys, Blue Earth Area

RESERVE PUREBRED SIMMENTAL HEIFER HCC Madam C | Shown by Clint Harguth, St. Charles

CHAMPION SIMMENTAL COW/CALF PAIR RC Miss Kansa 028T | Shown by Seth Kaehler, St. Charles

RESERVE SIMMENTAL COW/CALF PAIR Volz's Dream Sister W12 | Shown by Briggs Peine, Randolph

Minnesota State Fair OPEN SHOW

CHAMPION FOUNDATION SIMMENTAL HEIFER OMF Elin X58 | Shown by Oak Meadow Farms

RESERVE FOUNDATION SIMMENTAL HEIFER RTZ Roxxy | Shown by Raatz Farms

CHAMPION PUREBRED SIMMENTAL SIMMENTAL HEIFER JSMF Flick of Glitter | Shown by Mueller Farms

RESERVE PUREBRED SIMMENTAL HEIFER Kenco Lady Remington | Shown by Claeys Family Simmentals

CHAMPION FOUNDATION SIMMENTAL BULL OMF Outkast W86 | Shown by Oak Meadow Farms

RESERVE FOUNDATION SIMMENTAL BULL NFF Chester Y052 | Shown by Nelson Family Farms

CHAMPION PUREBRED SIMMENTAL BULL HS Work Force X427 | Shown by Hilbrands Simmentals

RESERVE PUREBRED SIMMENTAL BULL GLS Renegade X88 | Shown by Grass-Lunning Simmentals



2011 MSA BOARD MEMBERS

President

Adrienne Hilbrands
365 170th Ave. NW
Hollaway, MN 56249
320-394-2118

hilbraam@morris.umn.edu

Vice President

Matt Aggen
27133 146th St.
Harmony, MN 55939
507-772-4522

Secretary

Paul Krueger
9819 Neal Ave. S
Hasting, MN 55033
651-335-6544

pc_krueger@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Beth Andersland
12758 670th Ave.
Emmons, MN 56029
507-297-5986 (H) :: 507-402-1095 (C)
andersland@gmail.com

2011 MSA DIRECTORS

Jason Anderson
245 4th Ave. SE
Harmony, MN 55939
507-421-2494
ande3543@umn.edu

Erick Barberg
2545 Rockwood Ave. SW
Cokato, MN 55321
ebarberg@hotmail.com

Scott Franke
38572 Cnty. Rd. 187
Sauk Center, MN 56378
507-259-7690
frank422@umn.edu

Ed Kaehler
203 Cnty. Rd. 7 SE
Eyota, MN 55934
507-545-2157
507-259-8784

Bill Krause
12431 Cnty. Rd. 3 NW
Pine Island, MN 55963
507-398-8761
bkrause@agrinews.com

Ed Schmidt
3455 190th St.
Tracy, MN 56175
507-629-3513 (H)
507-530-2635 (C)
eecattle@imail.mvtvwireless.com

MINNESOTA SIMMENTAL ASSOCIATION

OLMSTEAD COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

State Sale

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2012

Cattle Come In

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2012

1:00 p.m.: Annual MSA Meeting

4:00 p.m.: MJSA Meeting

5:30 p.m.: Poolside Social Hour

6:30 p.m.: Annual Banquet

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2012

8:00 a.m.: Sale Cattle on Display

11:00 a.m.: Parade of Sale Cattle

12:00 p.m.: County Fair Jackets Awarded

1:00 p.m.: 39th Annual MSA State Sale

*Reserve your State Sale
hotel room now!*

Clarion Inn

P.O. Box 815

1630 South Broadway

Rochester, MN 55904

Phone: 507-288-1844

www.clarioninnrochesterMN.com

*Nominations now
open for*

**COMMERCIAL SIMMENTAL PRODUCER OF THE YEAR!
NOMINATE ONLINE AT WWW.MNSIMMENTAL.COM**

REMINDER

Start thinking of items, embryos or semen you'd be interested in donating towards the MSA auction in Feb. to support our association & juniors!

MN JUNIOR SIMMENTAL ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:
Andrea Diehn

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Laura Mulert

Secretary:
Theresa Claeys

Treasurer:
Mackinzie Brass

Board of Directors:
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Jr. Advisor:
Amy Brass

MN Jr. Simmental News

I hope everyone had a great fall and is getting ready to enjoy a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!! This is a quieter time for junior activities, but we have our Minnesota State Sale and Banquet coming up in February. We hold our annual Junior meeting on Friday, February 24 at 4 pm – this is when we elect new officers, vote on which shows to sponsor, etc. We really need all our juniors to attend – this is when you can make your voice heard!

Our main fundraiser for the entire year is the merchandise auction at the banquet held Friday evening. All of the Simmental breeders in the state have been very generous in the past with their donations of items and their support during the bidding. We encourage the juniors to attend the banquet and help with the auction after dinner. It's a fun evening and always really successful.

Finally, the state sale is Saturday and the other junior fundraiser for the year is running the foodstand. We need juniors to sign up for shifts to work (the sign ups will be at the junior meeting on Friday) and also, we would like every junior to bring a pan of bars (pre-cut, if possible) for the foodstand. This is always a lot of fun and a great way to meet other juniors from around the state and help your junior association.

Please remember that junior dues should be paid either before or during state sale weekend. It only costs \$5 to become a member and is a fun way to become more involved in the Simmental breed. We hope to see all of you on state sale weekend!!

NOTES FROM ASA HEADQUARTERS

I think Kelly Schmidt has, for several years, provided information in this space. He did a fantastic job of reaching-out for ASA and serving our membership. The sales and events calendar in each SimTalk and the Register document the travel and away-from-home time for ASA Field Staff. Kelly's new position allows him to stay in agriculture and provides much more time to watch his girls grow up.

DR. JERRY LIPSEY, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

There are several important projects underway at ASA that will impact our ability to advance the demand for SimGenetics. Three of the most important are:

- Multibreed Calving Ease and Maternal Calving Ease
- DNA Assisted EPDs
- Adopting a common base with Red Angus

Multibreed CE and MCE: As far as we know, no one has ever developed the ability to provide CE and MCE EPDs for crossbred/composite seedstock that utilize calving ease EPDs from other evaluations. Drs. Wade Shafer and Lauren Hyde have built and tested the computer programming that will deliver CE and MCE EPDs on every animal in our database. In previous years, only Purebreds and Fullbloods have been included in our genetic evaluations for calving ease and maternal calving ease. Now that every animal can be included, we will have EPDs regardless of the percentage Simmental in the pedigree. A major feature of the newly developed software is that we can incorporate calving ease information from other genetic evaluations, just as we have been doing for years with weight and carcass traits. This is a very powerful feature, which allows us to leverage data from other populations (e.g., Angus, Gelbvieh, etc.) to make our calving ease EPDs more accurate than if we solely relied on our own data. Look for some high accuracy bulls to change percentile rank because their crossbred progeny will now be included in the evaluation.

DNA Assisted EPDs: ASA is approaching the time when we can use a DNA sample to improve EPD accuracy EPDs on low to mid accuracy animals. To be sure, when you increase the accuracy of an animal's EPDs, they will change... for both better and worse. We have evaluated nearly 3,000 DNA samples from old and new A.I. sires as well as steers involved in the Carcass Merit Program. The ASA Board of Trustees will discuss details and decide on service plans at their meeting in Denver, January 13.

A common base with Red Angus: The upcoming EPD-release will be our 3rd combined run with the ASA and Red Angus databases. We have been publishing EPDs on separate bases; consequently, Red Angus and SimGenetic EPDs can't be directly compared. We all know that commercial cattle producers, semen companies, academia (both teaching and extension) and international interests have urged breeds to move to the same base. We have discussed many of the variables and details in the October, November and upcoming December issues of the Register.

If you can, please join us in Denver for our Annual Meeting. We will discuss these and many other projects/programs in detail. I doubt if we will all agree on every issue, but isn't this an exciting time to own, sell and make Simmental better?

American Royal **KANSAS CITY, MO**

Reserve Percent Simmental Jr. Bull Calf NFF Chester Y052 | Nelson Family Farms
Class Winner NFF Lady Ace Y008 | Nelson Family Farms

North American International Livestock Exposition

LOUISVILLE, KY



Class Winner

HS Take A Breath Y33 | Hilbrands Simmentals & K-LER Cattle Co.

Class Winner

OMF Elin X58 | Oak Meadow Farms

Reserve Percent Simmental Heifer

HS Lookin For Love | Kiersten Jass

Breeders Spotlight

MUELLER FARMS

Jim and Stacie Mueller met at the Sibley County Fair in 1992 where Jim was showing in the dairy and swine projects and Stacie showed in the sheep project. They were married in 1997 and shared an interest for the beef industry.

Mueller Farms was started in 2000 with a few Simmental heifers. With Jim and Stacie newly married and living in town, the cattle were housed at Jim's parent's farm. In 2007 they purchased their own farm, which is located one mile from Jim's parent's farm and 2008 they purchased the foundation of their registered seed stock operation. They now have 40 registered Simmental and SimAngus cows in their herd. With family living in close proximity, they all help each other share the work load.



Jim, along with his Dad crop farm corn, soybeans, wheat and hay. His parents also own a commercial cow herd. Jim has 2 younger brothers that also help with the field work and cattle. Stacie's parents, who live 10 miles away, run a small Simmental and commercial herd along with a flock of purebred and crossbred sheep. They are implanting their embryos and partnering on new genetics. Stacie also has two younger brothers that live close by.

Jim graduated from Ridgewater College with an Ag Business Management Degree. He is in his 15th year with the Sibley County Highway Department. Stacie graduated from Hennepin Technical College with a LPN license. She worked in a family practice setting before returning to college. In 2000 she graduated from Normandale Community College with an AS Degree in Science. She is employed at Ridgeview Medical Center in Waconia as an RN in the surgical services department, currently in

her 11th year as an operating room nurse. She is presently working part time allowing her time to work with the show cattle.

Jim takes on the role of Livestock Superintendent at the Sibley County Fair. He has been an active member on the board for 15 years. They recently added an open class beef show and are excited about the 100 plus head of beef cattle that are exhibited. Stacie stays busy with her involvement in 4-H with the boys. Both sons are members of the General Livestock Project Bowl Team, which Stacie helps coach. She is also on their church council acting as chairperson for the board of education, and teaches Sunday school.

Both Jim and Stacie were active in 4-H, so teaching their sons, Jordan age 9 and Joey age 6 about showing cattle has become their new family pastime. Shows they participate at include; The March Madness Preview Show, MN Jr Spring Classic, MN Jr Livestock Show, MN Block and Bridle Show, Sibley County Fair, Renville County Classic Jackpot show, MN State Fair, and the MN Beef Expo.

Their most recent success was at the 2011 MN Beef Expo where JSMF Flick of Glitter claimed the Supreme Champion Breeding Heifer. She also was the 2011 MN State Fair Grand Champion Simmental Heifer. They plan to sell her in Denver at "The One" Sale this January.



Jim and Stacie have purchased genetics from elite breeders to base their cow herd on, and in 2010 they started their embryo program, and now have a healthy donor pen. Their goal is to produce cattle that will compete in the show ring, perform in the pasture, and excel in the feedlot to maximize profitability.

Mueller Farms consign at the MN Beef Expo, MN State Simmental Sale, and also sell private treaty off the farm. They sell genetics online through Breeders World in the "Spring Thaw" and "Fall Freeze" Sales hosted by the Polzin Embryo Center.

They give credit and thanks to their family and friends who continue to help them along the way. Meeting close friend and current partner, Erick Barberg, who took them under his wing and introduced them to the Simmental industry has been a huge asset to their operation. They feel fortunate to have found such an awesome breed of cattle with so many respectable people making it happen!

Check out their website at muellerfarms.net or visit them at the farm. You're always welcome!

ATTENTION:

If you have recently moved & would like to update your address, please contact Beth Andersland:

andersland@gmail.com or call 507-297-5986

MN SIMMENTAL NEWS

12758 670th Ave.
Emmons, MN 56029

encore=visions

Why Choose **Simmental**?



- Fertility
- Maternal Performance
- Longevity

- Calving Ease
- Heterosis
- Docility



- Growth Performance
- Efficiency
- Carcass Quality



Minnesota
Simmental
Association

WWW.MNSIMMENTAL.COM

Adrienne Hilbrands - MSA President
320-394-218
hilbraam@morris.umn.edu

Beth Andersland - MSA Treasurer
507-297-5986
andersland@gmail.com