

AUSTRALIAN BELTED GALLOWAY ASSOCIATION INC.

ABN 65 169 855 060

Please visit our web page or contact our office at www.beltedgalloway.org.au

2016 Galloway World Congress, Gretna Green, Scotland

Australian Belted Galloway Association Report

- **Australian Belted Galloway Association**

Established in 1975, the Australian Belted Galloway Association (ABGA) is the largest and oldest continuing herd book for Belted Galloway beef cattle in Australia. The association maintains the largest actively-registered number of Belted Galloways in Australia, with 1422 currently in the electronic herd-book. The ABGA has also steadily increased its member numbers over recent years, with 148 members. In 2015 ABGA celebrated its 40th anniversary, this represents many years of cattle registration, breed promotion and member teamwork.

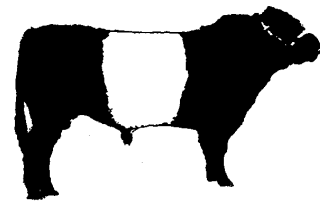
The ABGA is chartered to promote and encourage the breeding of Belted Galloways, and to ensure that the purity of the breed is maintained. ABGA administers a herd book to register and supply the pedigrees of full-blood and graded animals. The association also registers miniature Belted Galloways.

Belted Galloways are a breed that attracts many for very different reasons. Membership is diverse, ranging from commercial beef producers, studs who develop and supply seed-stock beef genetics, direct beef marketers, as well as 'lifestyle' breeders on smaller acreages who enjoy breeding registered or commercial stock. The ABGA welcomes all, various types of memberships are available to suit.

Membership is represented by a national council made up of state representatives. The ABGA employs the Agricultural Business Research Institute (ABRI) at the University of New England (UNE) in Armidale, NSW as its secretariat, herd book registrar and front-desk reception. Kate McDonald is the Executive Officer and Sally McPhie is the Registrar.

ABGA is a national administration body and a broad umbrella for numerous localized Belted Galloway communities around Australia, all busy promoting the breed within their respective communities and industries. While the ultimate focus is on the Belted Galloway, the ABGA is, in practice, a hands-on people network, all trying to help each other to grow and support the continuing success of the breed.

ABGA SECRETARY
ABRI, UNE ARMIDALE NSW 2351
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Australia is quite a vast country with often hundreds of kilometres between breeders. This however does not seem to deter the committed team work between breeders and they always seem to find a way to group together to show and display their cattle across Australia.

ABGA is aware of the importance of succession planning in terms of continuously encouraging new breeders into the show and carcass competition world. ABGA has learnt that it is important for established breeders to nurture their replacements, which is imperative for the breed to grow.

For information, a copy of our annual publication or to research pedigrees you can visit us at www.beltedgalloway.org.au

- **Royal Adelaide Show 2015 – ABGA 40th Anniversary**

In 2015 ABGA celebrated its 40th anniversary, congratulations. Formally this was celebrated in conjunction with Royal Adelaide Show in August 2015. Members from across Australia presented a strong line-up of cattle to the judge Mr Jim Ross of Romesbeoch Galloways in Scotland. A large contingent of members celebrated the anniversary with a dinner at the time of the show. New achievement awards were introduced in 2015 in a range of categories, which were presented at the dinner. These awards have proved to be a great way to acknowledge the outstanding work our members do to promote the breed, thank you to you all.

- **Shows**

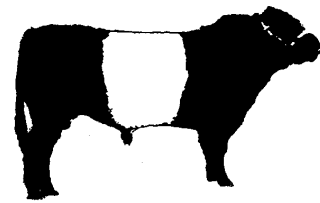
The breed is represented at Royal shows across the country each year, with members attending the following Royal shows – Canberra, Toowoomba, Sydney, Bathurst, Brisbane, Adelaide, Melbourne, Launceston and Geelong. Our members also attend many local shows to promote the breed. We thank all our members for the great work they have done over many years to get quality cattle out in the public where people can see them.

- **Carcase Results & Direct Marketing**

Australian Belted Galloways continue to demonstrate quality carcass characteristics, producing high yielding carcasses for the butcher and meat people enjoy eating. The diligent work over many years by members, has achieved great success in carcass competitions at Royal and major shows across Australia. Some breeders regularly partner and donate steers to agricultural schools to encourage the youth to prepare steers for carcass competitions, the youth is where the future lies.

A silver medal was won by a Belted Galloway Steer entered in the 2016 Sydney Royal Purebred Steer and carcass competition. The steer scored 86.5 points and was rated a B-muscle score. It weighed 432kgs live and yielded at 56.71% to produce a 245kg carcass. Which is a great achievement for the breed.

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- **Field days**

Our members actively promote the breed at field days across the country. Field days always draw an enormous number of people and they create a lot of interest in the breed.

- **World Galloway Congress 2018 Australia**

We encourage and welcome you to attend the next **World Galloway Congress** in Adelaide South Australia in August **2018**.

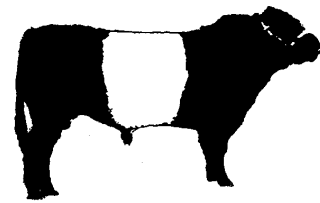
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The program will be a wonderful display of activities and farm visits which is sure to please enthusiasts from around the globe. We look forward to returning the gracious hospitality that other countries have provided at previous congresses. We hope to see you “down-under” in Australia for the 2018 congress.

Thankyou from **Ashleigh Michael and Kerry Heazlewood, Council members**

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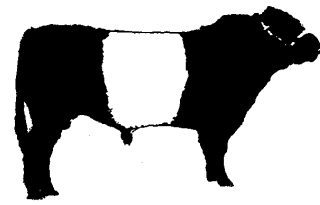
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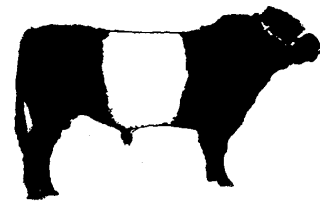
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G'Day from Downunder

(or in my opinion the top of the world – the makers of world globes have it wrong.)

My name is Colin McNeil, the current President of Galloways Australia. My wife Helen and I have been breeding Galloway cattle for around 8 years. Our focus has been on the original solid colour Galloways. We have around 9 breeders along with their progeny on our small 40 acre property on the mid north coast of New South Wales (NSW). Due to our small size, in Australian terms, we concentrate on breeding seed stock original Galloway genetics; we also provide our table with excellent meat; which we enjoy sharing with family and friends.

Galloways Australia may have a new face for the President but you may be assured that our direction is unchanged as we continue to represent the three separate and distinct breeds within the Galloway family, Galloway, Belted Galloway and White Galloway, and strive to ensure the continuation of the original genetics of the Galloway breed. Our rules and roles continue to be based on indisputable genetic principles and the promotion of all Galloway breeds .

Penetrating a market dominated by “Angus” in Australia with its exceptional marketing of Angus branded beef in supermarkets and fast food outlets is difficult. In Australia there is not a consistent message about the Galloway's qualities or heritage. Our aim is to continue building on previous marketing achievements by championing and promoting the exceptional eating qualities of Galloway beef as well as their hardiness, feed efficiency, marbling ability when fed only grass and calving efficiency.

On the topic of beef quality and impressing people; some recent major carcass competition results graphically support our claims. A major carcass competition, the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza had around 350 entries comprising all breeds and cross breeds. There was 1 Galloway entered, a full blood, ie, a 100% Galloway. While it didn't win it scored almost 90% of the possible points. It was awarded 100% points for Eye Muscle Area and Saleable Meat Yield as well as rating very highly for marbling. Results from Australia's premier carcass competition, the 2015 Royal Sydney Show Pure Bred Carcass Competition were equally impressive. Galloways Australia donated 5 steers to three Agricultural High Schools to be entered in the 2015 Royal Sydney Show, there were over 300 head entered. The 5 full blood Galloway steers won 2 Taste Test Championships and 3 Bronze Medals.

Galloways Australia actively seeks relationships with High School agriculture programs as a means of gaining greater recognition for the breed at the grass roots level. We hope to build on these relationships in coming years. Part of our efforts in this regard is to hold training days for students in High School agriculture programs covering clipping, show preparation, parading and judging.

Galloways Australia under the leadership of past president, Greg Stuart, continues to pursue research activities that demonstrate the quality of Galloway beef and other characteristics unique to the Galloway breeds. Galloway Australia's research shows that over the past 2 years Galloways have continued to be in the top 4% of eating quality of carcasses slaughtered. Galloways Australia is to soon undertake its next round of nutritional testing of additional cuts of Galloway beef. The results will again be compared against Australian and international comparable standards i.e. USDA testing. Results will be posted on our website when available.

Another research project Galloways Australia is undertaking is a trial to determine if Galloways come into heat during Artificial Insemination earlier than other breeds esp. dairy breeds. Some UK members have suggested this is the case. In addition we are currently having discussions with the Gatton campus of the University of Queensland in order to obtain a genome profile of the Galloway breed. In this regard we have provided them

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with the research results achieved from the White Galloway and Belted Galloway colour pattern genetic profiles and associated molecular genetic analysis. Also provided the paper on genetic distances between British and European cattle breeds as determined by the Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh. Such a project may be useful in culling suspected Simmental and Angus genetics within Galloways. Any information gleaned from this process will be posted on our website as it comes to hand.

As always Galloways Australia members have been active at local and Royal Shows. Supreme Galloway exhibits were achieved at the Royal Shows of Sydney, Canberra and Bathurst. Galloways Australia's co-operation with the Slow Food Movement continues with two Galloways Australia members being delegates to the Slow Meat Symposium in Denver, USA where they presented the case for natural production of Galloway beef. You will find an article on the subject in the Galloways Australia Magazine you will receive. At a recent Field Day held in the Hunter Valley Galloway beef was used by the Hunter Slow Food Convivium for a junior cooking competition. It is planned for the competition to be extended to schools next year with the finals to be held at the Field Day; again to feature Galloway beef. Galloway beef is to be featured in a nose to tail menu for the annual Hunter Slow Food dinner this year.

We are continuing with our regular promotional activities in our attendance at rural field days which is an excellent way of promoting the three separate Galloway breeds. Recent field days have resulted in increased enquiries for both Stud and commercial cattle from both small and larger farming enterprises. While this is good for the breeds' growth we do on occasion have difficulty in meeting the demand for animals. On the other side of the coin our members who direct market their beef regularly find they are unable to meet the demand for their product. I believe the increased interest by consumers in ethically produced grass fed beef will only further increase the demand for the high quality, well marbled, tasty beef that the Galloways provide.

As Galloways Australia strives to promote the uniqueness of the three different Galloway breeds and the characteristics that they present it is sometimes interesting to note what is occurring in other breeds and the directions they are moving in. To this end I have included the following extract from an article in an Australian newspaper and was headed up *White is the new Black*.

"The seed stock landscape is evolving fast, especially as gene editing labs get closer to commercialisation of new gene editing tools for livestock.

US genomics company AgGenetics, Tennessee, has partnered with one such lab and is presently seeking investment partners for its white Angus and other genetics projects.

White Angus cattle, with a greatly improved heat tolerance, are now close to being a commercial reality and those at AgGenetics believe northern Australia will be one of the fastest take-up regions.

AgGenetics founder and chief financial officer James West said as a genetic base they are starting with some champion bulls they already own.

These bulls will be "gene edited" (essentially the same process as genetic modification but between the same species) to introduce desirable traits. The resulting bulls will have semen collected for sale.

The process for white Angus will initially use cloning. The cloned embryos will be edited to contain the white hair gene from silver Galloway and the short hair gene from Senepol." (The full article is on the Galloways Australia website.)

Now I don't want to question the actual article or those scientific minds behind the process but I do wonder why just get the colour benefit of a silver Galloway when you can get the great benefits of the whole Galloway package. We know that the Galloways do well in a range of environments from snow covered fields to the much warmer areas.

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In closing I hope you have an enjoyable time at this conference and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Australia in 2018. With regard to the 2018 Australian Conference, Galloways Australia is well placed to assist planning your Australian Visit. A list of contacts and proposed post conference group tour is enclosed in your Galloways Australia information pack.

Colin McNeil

President, Galloways Australia



**Australian Galloway Association
Report to World Galloway Congress
August 2016**

Australian Galloway Association (AGA)
www.galloway.asn.au

Sallie Wadley is our Executive Officer and she works for the Association two days each week.

The AGA's web site is always a great source of information and news and provides public access to the Association's herd book. It is a great tool for obtaining pedigree information when considering cattle joining options or new purchases.

There have been a number of Galloway Family Facebook pages developed for information exchange and our members, and Galloway enthusiasts world wide have been active and enthusiastic contributors on these sites.

Association membership is growing particularly in the area of lifestyle farmers, who have moved from the cities to small properties on the outskirts of larger towns and purchased smaller herds of cattle for both aesthetic reasons and also a source of beef for their tables. We now have 128 members and it is great to see an increase in the younger generation coming through as new breeders. Sadly some of our longstanding members have reached the age of retirement and dispersed their herds, but in most cases the cattle have been snapped up by existing members, or people who have purchased registered stock and made the decision to join the Association and build on the pedigreed stock they have purchased.

Galloway Family - Field Days, Workshops & Forums

The Galloway Family, that is all types of Galloways, are registered with the Australian Galloway Association.

We recently held our Annual General Meeting for 2016, which included a very successful dinner featuring Galloway beef, and a forum for our members to put forward their views and opinions. Over 60 people attended; a positive reflection on the Association.

A very successful stock handling workshop and field day featuring pasture management was held in conjunction with the AGM.

AGA members have run seven similar days in the past year, with a couple more planned before the end of the year.

With Australia being such a big country, the Committee called for people in different areas to act as event co-ordinators to help members organise similar types of events. We are hoping to build a bank of resources to use at field days or to provide to new members who are also new to cattle. We will be building on the success of past field days and holding them in different regions in the future, at the properties of AGA members.

Galloway Family Marketing

Showing continues to be a favourite marketing tool for breeders with AGA members doing a fabulous job of presenting their cattle in great **condition** despite tough conditions over the past couple of years.

At many shows the Galloways have held their own in the interbreed competitions, being highly ranked in the final placings.

Shows are also proving to be a great opportunity for Galloway breeders to get together and relax after the formalities and chat about their cattle and get to know each other.

Carcasses

The Galloway family in Australia continues to prove that they can produce the high yielding carcase for the butcher and the quality meat that the consumer enjoys. The proof is in a number of wins in carcase competitions entered and awards for "From the Paddock to Plate" production of beef.

Currently there are premiums being paid for grass fed beef for both export and local consumption.

Agricultural Field Days

Our members are finding field days are a great way for interested people to inspect and enquire about our Galloway cattle. These days are usually held over three or four days and breeders attend with a selection of cattle and promotional material. This provides valuable exposure to the general public as well as being a great networking opportunity to keep in touch with other cattle breeders displaying their cattle. We are finding that many people are coming back year after year to chat about the Galloway Family, and many do eventually buy some Galloways.



Composites

Galloways have always crossed very well with other breeds and some beef producers are having success doing this in order to meet current markets. In Northern Australia where most of Australia's beef is produced, Galloway genetics have been used successfully with the Brahman breed to produce a composite that is fertile, hardy, and productive, therefore improving the carcass quality of the Bos Indicus. In the Southern part of Australia the Galloway is being crossed with Angus to produce very marketable and productive stock – the hybrid vigour producing cattle which are grow well and are meaty and meet butcher shop and abattoir requirements.

Looking forward to seeing you in Australia in 2018

Please don't hesitate to contact the AGA office or any member if you are visiting Australia - we would be pleased to help in any way we can.

All the best for a successful Conference.



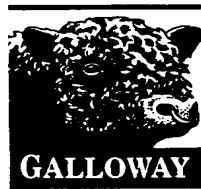
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Try a little tenderness!

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The Galloway Family: Blacks, Belties, Duns, Whites, Miniatures



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The Galloway Family: Blacks, Belties, Duns, Whites, Reds, Miniatures



**AUSTRALIAN
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The Galloway Family: Blacks, Belties, Duns, Whites, Miniatures and their CROSSES



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Carcass results and direct marketing

- ▶ The Galloway family in Australia continues to prove that they can produce the high yielding carcass for the butcher and the quality meat that the consumer enjoys.
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- ▶ Now days there is a big premium paid for grass fed beef for both export and local consumption.



**AUSTRALIAN
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Galloway Family Marketing – Showing

- ▶ Showing continues to be a favourite marketing tool for breeders:



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Marketing Galloways: Large Industry Field Days

Our members are finding field day displays are a great way of getting interested people to inspect and enquire after our cattle. It is also a good way of keeping in touch with other breeders and breeds.



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Composites with Galloways:

- ▶ Galloways have always crossed very well with other breeds and some beef producers are having success with doing this, but now days this is called “composites”. In Northern Australia where most of our beef is produced, Galloway genetics have been used with Brahman to help produce a composite that is fertile, hardy, productive and improved carcass quality.
- ▶ In the South the Galloway is been combined with the Angus to produce very marketable and productive stock.



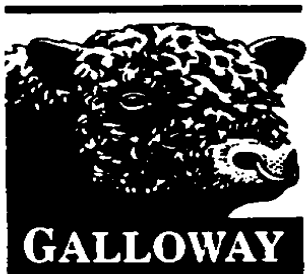
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ASSOCIATION**

Canadian Galloway Association WGC Report

The Canadian Galloway producers have done well the last couple of years! Cattle prices had been high but have leveled out for now. Galloway cattle sales have been strong with most activity being in export markets. The association held a semen sale the end of 2014 selling some older bulls. Semen from 10 different bulls, total of 84 doses sold for an average \$67 per dose. Two spring bull sales were held in Alberta 2015. Genuine Genetics Bull Sale (Big Deal/Stonewall Galloway) in March sold 8 2yr old bulls average \$3637 and 2 lots of semen. Western Progress Bull Sale consignors included Alberta Plaid Galloway, Chickadee Farm and Tri-R-Way Livestock also held in March sold 28 bulls, 12 females & 3 lots of embryos. Yearling bulls averaged \$3339, bull calves averaged \$2847 and females averaged \$2937. Genuine Genetics Female Sale held in November sold 9 females average \$3177. In the spring of 2016 there was one Bull sale. It was the Genuine Genetics bull sale held again in March. Purebred off farm sales have also been strong. Lower Canadian dollar has attracted strong interest from American buyers. The higher beef prices had also sparked interest and provided some optimism for young breeders to invest and build their cow herds. Select breeders have also developed a market for grass finished Galloway beef "pasture to plate" with success and strong demand for product. A recent Trans-Pacific Partnership deal is good news for the beef industry. Beef exports are expected to increase as tariffs come down.

Canadian Galloway breeder's also had some success in the show circuit. Suncrest & Sunrise Galloways the Salter family from Listowel, ON attended the National Western Stock Show Denver, Colorado in January 2015 and took home Grand Champion Bull banner with Suncrest Yuma. Ward Marshall from Red Deer, AB attended Farm Fair Intl at Edmonton, AB in November of 2015. He took home Grand Champion female with 2yr old pair YY Wanda 317A and her 2015 bull calf was also Grand Champion Bull in the other breeds class. James Montieth of Edam, SK also exhibited his cattle at Farm Fair. Ward and James are both young breeders who provided a good display of Galloway cattle. Shelby McIlwraith from Puslinch, ON also had a fantastic year with her yearling 4-H heifer. Shelby finished her show season by taking Champion 4-H heifer of all other breeds class with Glenfiddich Bonnie at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto, ON. The CGA has also provided cash to approximately 14 4-H members who have completed their 2015 4-H project with a Galloway or Galloway cross. We have a fantastic group of young breeders who are passionate about the breed and progressive in their operations. Eastern Galloway breeders also provided display of Galloway cattle at Rockton, Acton and Erin Fall Fairs.

The Canadian Annual General Meeting in 2015 was hosted by the Alberta Galloway Association. Meeting was held during Farm Fair, November 11- 14 in Edmonton. Member turn out was better this year for the AGM. Farm Fair is an agricultural show combined with Canadian Finals Rodeo. Slightly more than 950 head of purebred cattle from 16 breeds were shown this year. Another 200 head of commercial cattle were shown in other events. Our new executive 2015-16 was elected; President Brian Robertson Caroline AB, Vice President Marie Blake Listowel ON, and Executive Secretary Simon Lagace St Hyacinthe QC. Directors include; Bob Airth DeWinton AB, Jim King Innisfail AB, Ward Marshall Red Deer County AB, and Kelly Worthington Carstairs AB. This year the Annual meeting will be held in Eastern Canada in Southern Ontario. Our new website www.galloway.ca and Face book page is a great way to check out what is new and upcoming events in the Canadian Galloway Association. If looking for Galloway genetics we provide a marketplace and a link to membership, Canadian Livestock Records with a list of current Galloway breeders.

Submitted by Brian Robertson, President of CGA



GALLOWAY CATTLE SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND REPORT TO 2016 WORLD GALLOWAY CONGRESS

IN GRETNA GREEN, SCOTLAND 5th to 10th August 2016

A record number of “kiwi” breeder members are attending this World Galloway Congress and we welcome the opportunity to meet Galloway breeders from other countries and see many herds in their original home country.

The Galloway Cattle Society of New Zealand maintains the herd books for all 3 Galloway breeds.

We have 92 studs breeding registered cattle, with biggest growth being seen in the number of White Galloway herds, now equalling the number of Belted Galloway herds, although these tend to have larger numbers of cattle.

Calf registrations last year numbered 374, of these 206 were Belted, 130 White, and 38 Galloway.

Our 82 Breeder members include 3 Juniors (under 18), it is great to see these young people competing in the show rings and their great enthusiasm for the Galloway breeds.

Our membership also includes 25 Associate (non-breeder) members.

About 75% of our herds are owned by small “lifestyle” farmers with 10 or less registered breeding cows, however the other 25% of herds have up to 60 registered breeding cows.

Promotion has strengthened over the past 2 years with the Society’s own Facebook page, our website, and our Gazette which is published 3 times per year. Participation in A & P Shows and field days throughout the country is on the increase, with much success in the show rings, particularly in the south of the South Island, and the central North Island.

In February this year, the Southern Breeders Group displayed a cow and calf of each breed, at the Southern Field Days, a 3-day event for the farming sector, which is held every 2nd year. Our southern breeders worked hard to promote the breeds to thousands of visitors.

A keen group of breeders in the north & central North Island also meet regularly for herd visits and social get-togethers.

Most of the Belted and White Galloway bulls are being sold to dairy farmers, as demand for our bulls from this sector has increased greatly in the last couple of years. The dairy farmers now recognising that using an easy calving, instant marker, smaller bull, also has financial advantages as the cross-bred beef calves can be sold at a premium price to the beef farmer.

In the beef market, the public are now increasingly demanding that the meat they buy is grass-fed, free-range farmed & possibly organic. The Galloway breeds lend themselves perfectly to this, as they are extremely hardy, do well on unimproved pasture, and thrive with minimum intervention.

The result is a low fat, well flavoured beef, high in Omega-3, so healthy too! What could be better?

World Galloway Congress Presentation

What are Riggitt Galloways?



‘A classically marked Riggitt, which can also be red, or dun, with the white’

The line-backed skin pattern falls between certain White/black pointed beasts, and solid, single coloured.

While, for instance, many British White cows will bear line-backed calves to a solid colour bull, it's not as common in White Galloways.

Some though occasionally throw Riggitt marked progeny, while others never seem to. Those of you from Australia and the States will hardly have seen them, while our German, Canadian and Kiwi friends have reported several Riggitts.

Seen as oddities, they have seldom been retained for breeding where they've occurred....until recently.

History

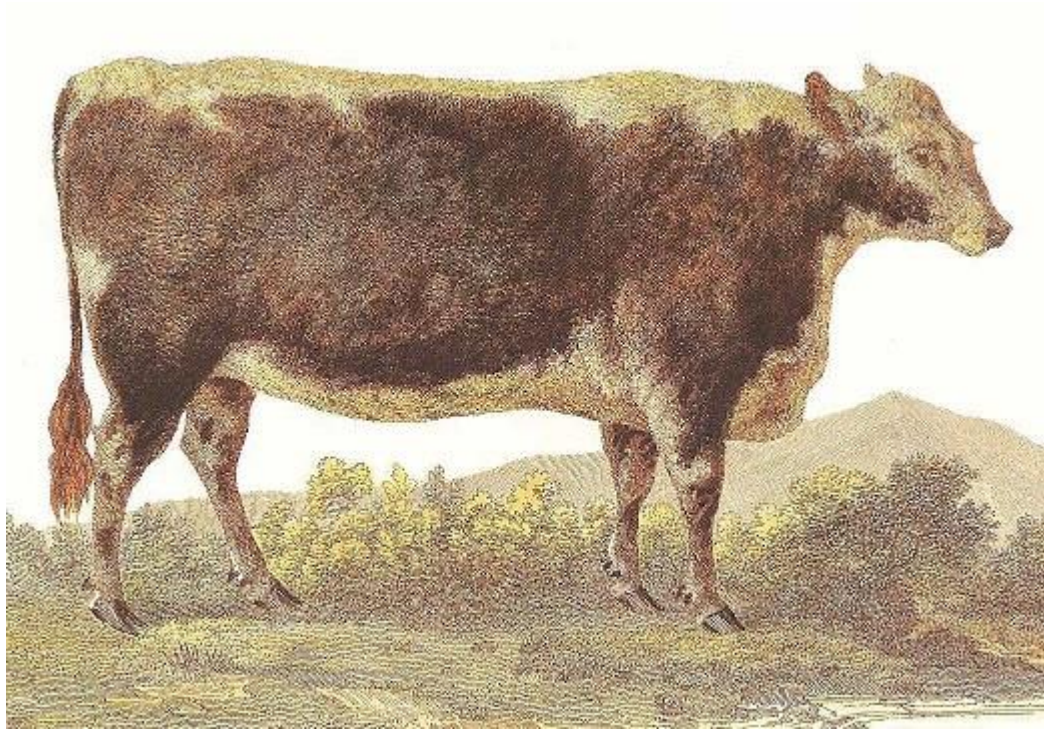
The word Riggitt is simply a vernacular Scottish term, comparable to 'ridged', as in simply a visual description, much as 'Belted' or 'White'.

Before Bakewell, and our modern hang ups on breed standards, written records make frequent reference to Scottish cattle with a stripe along their back, calling them riggit marked.

Robert Wallace, Professor of Agriculture at the University of Edinburgh wrote the seminal 1885 tome 'Farm Live Stock of Great Britain', in which he describes the

polled cattle in Scotland being (as well as black) ‘yellow, red, or brown; others brindled, black and white, ‘belted’ and ‘rigged’.

In 1830, William Cobbett described in ‘Rural Rides’, a herd of ‘Galways’ in Hampshire as being ‘white with black or red spots, these spots being from the size of a plate to that of a crown piece’. (Or, as we might call them now, overmarked Whites).



“The Fat Galloway Heifer’ a George Garrard engraving produced between 1799 and 1814 suggesting they were common in 1804’

1980s Resurgence

Following the birth of a Riggitt bull calf on one farm, and a heifer on another, a handful of White breeders started a breeding programme in Scotland in the 1980’s. The 3 herds initially involved were Kyle, Mochrum and Park. Sadly, after the untimely demise of Miss Flora Stuart, and John Corrie’s decision to focus on his Belted Galloways, the project almost stalled.

Happily though, by then, animals from those herds and occasional fresh throwbacks were finding new homes, and attracting interest.

The Riggitt Galloway Cattle Society

With no-one else picking up the ball, the RGCS in 2007 and our group have taken the Riggits forward.

After locating all the breeding stock and interested parties, we began our foundation register, and have just published our 3rd herdbook.

We've tried to strike a balance between aiming at classically marked stock with solid built Galloway build, while encouraging breeders to try their hand at a very obscure breed.

Mindful that we're short of bloodlines, we've allowed animals to be graded up, primarily from other Galloway breeds. And at present, we're quite well off for choice.

We're unable to reliably predict skin pattern inheritance so far, still getting solid coloured calves as well as the ubiquitous Whites. But we're comfortable the project is moving forward, and at least we can always eat what we don't fancy.

Overseas

We've also begun a register for those Riggitt breeders in New Zealand, with 3 herds on the books, and have regular communications with breeders in several other countries.



Cherrybank Dunstan – New Zealand bull currently owned by Barbara Fitchett

We look forward to seeing the Riggits being given a chance.

The Swiss Galloway Report: Part one

Overview over the last year



Picture Stöcklin Werner (Swiss Galloway Fotocompetition 2012)

Dear delegates to the world Galloway Conference

2015 as everywhere in Central Europe, Switzerland was experiencing an extraordinary hot summer and – for Swiss climate - a drought. Farmers and Galloway breeders, living close to the pulse of nature, observe these phenomena intensively and with great concern.

The Swiss Galloway Society is pleased with the fact that a farmer, Mr Guy Parmelin, has been elected to the Swiss government. We all hope that this is a good signal for our agricultural policy...

As Armin Kobel was retiring, the Swiss Galloway Society elected a new president, Patrik Schaller who took over in January 2015. Armin Kobel, has done lots for environmental

protection the context of Galloway breeding. The central activity of our new president will be the numerous marketing initiatives.

Swiss Galloway Highlights 2015:

A. Breeding:

Swissopen Faire 18.4.-19.4.2015 and Swiss Tier in Luzern: Fachschau mit 20.-22.11.2015

Exposition and Fare of Swiss breeders of all kind. Our Society is actively represented. All brands elect their Champion bulls - cows and - heifers in an intense competition.

Outing to the Burkhard Family: 22.8.2015: As every year the Society visits one of their members. This year the Burkhard Family, living in the hilly parts of the Swiss Emmental, (where the cheese comes from!) hosted the Club members. The Kids instructed other “junior farmers,, how to present Galloways at shows and auctions. We think it is extremely important that youngsters get the feeling of it real early in their lives. The pictures below speak for themselves!



A Swiss get together Photo B.v.Fischer



Junior instructor Photo B.v.Fischer

B. Marketing Galloway Products

Basler Feinmesse: 29.10.-1.11.2015: the big Market Show in Basel taking place in fall gives an excellent opportunity to present Galloway products to a broad public. The Weber Family was our Society's fabulous ambassador.



Christian Weber in Basel Foto 2014 B.v.Fischer

Slow Food Zürich: 16./17.11.2015 Slow Food in Switzerland is spreading rapidly. The Swiss Galloway Society decided to join this foundation. We have now two big exhibitions, one in Berne and one in Zurich. Helene Keller and her coworkers represent our Society in these extremely important marketing events. Slow food and slow growth of the Galloway go together very well and the Galloway philosophy is much appreciated in this segment of clients.

Society's Problems

Organizing and paying for a new homepage. Sadly after a few years IT products are out of fashion, an expensive fashion....and everybody is in this crazy frenzy.

With restricted financial resources we have to decide carefully, which exhibitions and markets we should attend.

Breeding regulations concerning the different colors (black, belted, dun white and riggit) are of constant debate! This year we hope to have settled most of the issues with a new protocol. Most difficult are the discussions concerning white Galloways. Genetics will help us solve the problem of opposing opinions in the future. Color should not be the main issue, since we are producing high quality meat, were the skin of the animal is of little importance. Still the breeders pride is important and should be respected.

We have marketed the Galloway burger in a competition among Swiss cooks. The result was astonishing: great varieties of burger meals were created. One of the examples is shown below.



Picture: Beat Suter

This year we are celebrating the first twenty years of the Societies existence.
As Secretary of the first days let me give you a short summary of the Galloway history in Switzerland.

The Swiss Galloway Report: Part two

20 Years Swiss Galloway Society 1996 -2016

Since centuries Switzerland was proudly exporting Swiss cows into the whole world. Famous is the Simmental brand, which has its roots in the mountainous valleys of the canton of Berne. Conservative agricultural policy stated that nothing else than the Swiss Simmental cows were of any value. So, no import whatsoever. Overproduction of milk, butter and cheese made it desirable to produce beef instead of dairy products. Even though all attempts to import foreign cows were blocked until the WTO regulations had been changed in 1993. Having good connections to the ministry of agriculture of Switzerland I succeeded shortly after the Highland Cattle Society to get the permission to import three (!) Galloways into Switzerland. There was one restriction: no commercial use, for zoo and hobby purposes only! You should have seen the reaction of the proud Simmental breeders when the first three black Galloways were seen in the Bernese Oberland. They were not amused at all. Now the burden of proof was on our side. Many consumers got convinced, that the Swiss made high quality beef, rich in omega three, made more sense than the import of South American Beef. Shortly after that Swiss beef production started fast, the ridiculous restrictions were abandoned and import of various species of beef cattle was permitted. The Swiss Galloway Society was founded by a handful of pioneers and I am proud to have been one of them.

We were always convinced that beef production should be based exclusively on grass and hay. The prealpine environment of our Swiss landscape with rough pastures – similar in many ways to that of Scotland - is rich in grass. The rich content of omega three in grass is an advantage while starch (wheat and grain as used in North American feed lots) doesn't make sense. (See the table below!) So our philosophy and strategy was a grass based beef production: In German short and simple: *Fleisch aus Gras!*

This was the key to a story of success. Today Galloway Gourmet Beef -our main brand- sells extremely well. Our farmers sell it directly from their farm shops and we can still go around big distributors, who cut our profits. In densely populated Switzerland, with short to very

short distances between producer and consumer, this direct selling strategy works extremely well.



Selling Galloway Beef directly from the Farm Photo Bv.Fischer

We believe that we have to keep the main Galloway strain pure bred. Of course we try different F1 cross breeds as Galloway x Simmental, Galloway x Holstein. Mostly we use a Galloway bull because of the meat component and a Dairy cow with the inherent milk factor. In the pure bred beef we are convinced that omega 3 is a health factor, which sometimes is hard to prove. Our strategy is based on our research summarized in the table below:

Results	Omega 3	:	Omega 6
➤ <i>Ideal</i>	1	:	1
➤ <i>Suggestions</i>	1	:	5
➤ Grass	1	:	0,25
➤ Haylage	1	:	0,33
➤ Hay	1	:	1,56
➤ Galloway	1	:	1,71
➤ Salmon	1	:	3,6
➤ CH Beef	1	:	3,6
➤ Starch	1	:	9,5
➤ US Beef	1	:	17,0

compared to other nutrients grass has the far highest content of **Omega 3 fatty acids**





First slide of a presentation marketing the Omega 3 component

There is a constant debate about the bigger Canadian type or the Scottish type of Galloway cattle: Roughly we can conclude that in the flatter part of our country we prefer the heavier Canadian animals, whereas in the steep mountain sides we rely on the smaller and lighter Scottish type.

The relatively light Galloways with the large claws are favorable to pastures of steep mountain sides and protect the soil's erosion. The nonselective feeding habits promote a big variety of plant species. Galloways produce an excellent meat quality, even if they feed on plants growing under rough ecological conditions.

The genetic variety of different cattle breeds enriched Swiss agriculture on one hand and on the other hand has proofed to be a protective factor against the spread of many diseases.

A sound competition between breeders of different kinds of cattle is favorable for the market and at the end for the consumer himself. Thus beef farming grew in Switzerland on behalf of the overproducing milk butter and cheese farming. As a consequence many dairy farmers changed their production to beef farming. Quite a few to Galloway farming.

All these factors help us to promote the Galloway philosophy in Switzerland. **And at the end of the day our strategy combines the ecological needs of society with the economic interests of our Galloway Farmers.**

In the beginning the Swiss Galloway Society was faced with the problem of not being able to keep up with the fast increasing demand. Even under these conditions we stuck to the philosophy of marketing Galloway Gourmet Beef directly from the farm and in close relation to the clients, who were invited to see the production quality themselves. We were very strict about not letting the big distributors into our business and avoid the big quarrels of label cheating!

In the early years there was also a shortage of pedigree animals. The danger of low quality heifers being selected to be mother cows was a real danger for our quality management. Local conferences, teachings, rules and regulations and the Swiss open competition helped to set the necessary standards.

The Swiss Galloway Society has set three main goals for Galloway beef production:

- Pure bred Galloways in a closed herd book (5 Generations!)
- Production of ***Galloway Gourmet beef*** out of pure bred Galloways
- Possibility of Beef production in the F1 Segment if larger animals are desired

Agriculture in Switzerland as well as in Europe is a very difficult problem. Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T TIP) causes great concern. Small farming communities have to merge in order to survive. Mass production in industrial animal plants is not our philosophy. Is meat *once in a couple of days*, but in good quality vs meat *three times daily* the solution?

It is surely hard to find the right answers when we look at the world wide famine.

It is too bad that we cannot find solutions for all these issues.

In all this global change the Galloway properties remain an important constant factor:

- Very stable genetics
- Easy calving
- Low vet bills
- Robust health
- Friendly character
- Produces excellent meat on sparse food conditions
- The most beautiful cow of the world
- Genetic ability to store Omega 3 fatty acids in the intramuscular fat

If humans don't make bigger mistakes Galloways will survive all T TIPS and all crazy fantasies of the politicians.

This is why I conclude my report from Switzerland with the optimistic slogan of the past for the future: **all the way with Galloway!**

Yours Berchtold von Fischer, Switzerland

THE BELTED GALLOWAY CATTLE SOCIETY

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President: Mr. R. K. Graham Chair: Mr. T. J. Oliver Secretary: Mr. Ian J.R. Sutherland

BELTED GALLOWAY CATTLE SOCIETY OF U.K. & EIRE

WORLD CONFERENCE REPORT 2016

It is a pleasure to welcome so many of our colleagues from around the world to this conference here on our home territory. Much preparation has gone into the organisation of the event and it is gratifying to see that so many have made the journey to visit the home of these special breeds.

The Belted Galloway Society continues to be in good heart, with a flourishing membership and a steadily increasing level of interest in the breeds. The Society registers mainly Belted Galloways but also handles registration of White Galloways. Together with our colleagues in the Galloway Cattle Society and the Riggitt Galloway Society we deal with the registration of pedigrees and the promotion of the Galloway family of breeds.

The numbers of Belted Galloways being registered has remained at a similar level for several years now, typically 1,100 females and 100 bulls per year entering the herd book. Of course, there are a considerable number of non-pedigree Belties in the country, but it is difficult to estimate the numbers. The most important thing is that the breed is once again at a healthy level and has been removed from the rare breeds watchlist following the foot and mouth disaster in 2001.

The interesting thing is that we experience a constant stream of enquiries from breeders wishing to join the Society and register cattle, although the numbers of registrations remains fairly static. This would indicate that our membership is made up mainly of small farmers, or “lifestyle farmers”. While this is good for the breed in terms of numbers it means that, at least for the moment, there are relatively few farms which keep Belted Galloways on a commercial scale.

However, there are signs that the market in the U.K. is changing. Consumers are becoming more discerning about the meat they buy, not only in terms of the quality of the beef, but also its provenance. This means they are interested not only in where their beef was produced, but also what type of farming system produced it and, not least, whether the beef came from a traditional home breed or a fast-growing over-lean Continental breed.

There are large areas of less productive marginal grassland and moorland in Britain and Ireland, particularly in the hills, and modern commercial cattle cannot survive the climate and relatively poor quality grazing. This is where hardy traditional breeds like the Beltie and the White Galloway come in. Their slow growth pattern allows them to thrive on a low plane of nutrition and produces tender, succulent and tasty beef which is in great demand from high quality butchers. Only our old established traditional breeds are in a position to capitalise on this market, and this is where the Society is positioning itself.

In the U.K. several cattle health issues are rearing their ugly heads, and breed societies are playing their part in encouraging breeders to adopt preventative measures to slow down and eventually eradicate these scourges. After great success in the latter part of the 20th century the battle against Bovine Tuberculosis is raging once more, and the south of England is particularly badly affected. Several of our members have experienced reactors to T.B., which results in costly and inconvenient shutdowns and testing regimes. It also affects the trade in breeding cattle, as farmers from non-affected areas are obviously reluctant to source animals from affected regions, and this has been reflected in the Society's official sales. Our two northern sales are not affected by the T.B. situation, but our south west England sale suffers from the reluctance of breeders from the north to buy from that region. An intense debate is underway with the Government over the best strategy to deal with the problem, but opinions are diverging and a solution hard to come by.

The Society has taken steps to encourage members to address another pernicious cattle disease, Bovine Viral Diarrhoea. This disease is highly infectious and results in loss of production and abortions. In addition some animals may appear healthy but still carry the disease and will spread it. These Persistently Infected cattle really ought to be slaughtered, but some breeders understandably are reluctant to dispose of an otherwise healthy looking animal. An eradication programme has been rolled out in Scotland, however this has yet to be taken up in other parts of the U.K. and Ireland. The Society was not willing to impose stringent BVD standards on the entire membership, but has chosen a more persuasive route by insisting that all animals entered for official Society sales are vaccinated against the disease and tested before sale. In this way the breeders at the top of the pyramid will hopefully set an example to the rest to the membership with a view to encouraging a voluntary uptake of preventative measures.

The White Galloway breed in Britain is very much a minority one, with only 66 females and 7 bulls registered by the Society last year, but there is no doubting its qualities of hardiness and its ability to convert poor quality grazing into high quality beef. White Galloway breeders report a better milking ability compared to other Galloway breeds, with resulting improved growth rates of calves, and this was demonstrated to great effect when the Society's Chairman, Tim Oliver, hosted a visit to his farm to see what is probably the largest herd of White Galloways in the country. Members came away commenting on how the White cattle looked so much better than the Belted variety, even though they were kept on the same ground under the same conditions. As with many minority breeds, the challenge is persuading breeders of the benefits of these excellent cattle in order to prevent the gene pool shrinking to too low a level. The Society has been very interested in the research carried out into the breeding of White Galloways and its influence on markings, and has adopted its breed standards to take account of this and to make it more attractive for breeders to register their White Galloways.

To conclude, the Belted Galloway Society remains in good health, with a thriving membership and plenty of challenges in front of it. We look forward to reporting on progress in two years' time.

Belted Galloway Society, Inc.
World Galloway Conference Report

Greetings from U. S. Belted Galloway Society.

The Belted Galloway Society is experiencing continued growth. Our membership topped 1000 a couple of years ago and has continued to increase each year as have the number of registrations and transfers. The Society moved all its membership, registration and transfer work to the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation in 2010. We have been very pleased with our association with the CLRC.

The Society introduced a new program a few years ago that provides the first years membership free to any new member that either registers or transfers animals at the time of membership application. The program has proven to be quite successful. Our research indicates that over 50% of new members continue their membership.

The Society produces an annual magazine *The Belted Galloway Journal* featuring articles about members in different parts of the country in addition to information about shows, sales, junior activities, regional group activities and coming events. It also provides a national forum for members to advertise their farms. Our 2015 Journal has a featured editorial about Jane Faul, the first secretary of the World Galloway Conference, who passed away last year.

The Society also produces what we call a meat brochure which is currently in its third printing. In addition the Society provides a selection guide and a breeder's manual. All literature is provided free to new members. All new junior members receive a handbook guide to showing belties. A new logo was developed last year which includes all 3 colors of belties. The BGS website has been updated by a company that has many years of experience working with the livestock industry.

There are 2 major Belted Galloway sales in the U. S. each year, one in Fryeburg, Maine in April in conjunction with the Fryeburg Youth show and the other in Louisville, Kentucky in November in conjunction with the National Belted Galloway Society show and Annual meeting.

There are also several notable annual shows including the Big-E in Massachusetts, World Beef Expo in Wisconsin, Fryeburg Fair in Maine and the National show in Kentucky. Entry numbers for Fryeburg and the National show have been in the high 80's and 90's. There will be a special Junior show in Louisville this year celebrating the 20th year of that show. The 2020 World Galloway Congress is tentatively scheduled to held at the North American International Livestock Exhibition in Louisville, Kentucky during the Belted Galloway show and tentative Galloway show.

2016 World Galloway Congress, American Galloway Breeders Association Report

The Galloway breed in the United States is seeing continued growth. The demand for high quality Galloway females continues to be very strong. The supplies of these females as well as logistics issues are things we as breeders have to deal with. We are not always able find the desired cattle in regards to the type and or the area of the country they are in. These issues cause an increase in price for the interested parties.

In the United States we are seeing increases for both the pedigreed cattle and the commercial cattle industry. The overall cattle market is down, as are commodity grain prices. The profit margins are very thin in almost all aspects of the Agriculture industry. This scenario makes producers want to minimize their input costs. Many are also considering switching from crop farming to a grazing type operation for beef production. When these producers do their research, they often use the internet as a tool. They search for breeds of cattle that have low inputs. They also search for cattle with a high quality end product. The one breed that keeps coming up is **"GALLOWAY"**.

Their struggle starts when they try to locate a breeding herd with a number of females for sale. There just simply are not that many Galloway available. It is the same for pedigreed females and crossbred Galloway females. We either can't find what they are looking for, or by the time we figure in all freight charges, the dollar value gets higher than what some are willing to spend.

Many of our Galloway bull and semen customers are using Galloway to produce replacement females. It is not very often that they are willing to sell any of theirs at commercial prices. They want a premium for them as they are "some of the best heifers we have ever produced".

Much of the demand for our Galloway cattle is the direct marketing of food. The idea of buying local from a person you know is really growing in the United States. The public's concern over food safety and quality is real, and many are willing to pay a small premium for that piece of mind. These people also want a high quality product, which has been raised in a more "Natural" environment. Galloway cattle are ideal for this market.

The demand we have in our commercial cattle industry is partly because we can offer the producer real and true heterosis. Galloway cattle registered in Section 1 of the American Galloway Breeders Association herd book are still Full Blood Galloway. Almost all breeds in the US have or have had open herd books throughout their history. Those breeds are now starting to see that opening their herd book up and allowing other breed influences have been detrimental in many ways to their respective breeds. Most of the beef cattle herd in the United States is Angus based. Almost all breeds in the United States have used the Angus breed in their breed up programs. The commercial cattle producer is wanting a breed that will give them hybrid vigor / heterosis, without sacrifices the black hide, and or quality of the end product.

We in the US are looking forward to getting Galloway blood in our nation's cowherd.

Respectfully,

Harley Blegen, President
American Galloway Breeders Association