

GROWTH PROMOTERS IN BEEF PRODUCTION

Experimental work carried out at the Agricultural Institute at Grange, Co. Meath by Dr. Jim Roche clearly shows a marked response in performance of beef cattle where growth promoters are used. Various hormone and non-hormone growth promoters are available and the response from the different types vary. At the recent winter meeting of the Irish Grassland and Animal Production Association Dr. Roche outlined his results at Grange.

Response in steers can be as high as 12% when such animals are on a high plane of nutrition. Where animals are on a low plane of nutrition response is poor and can even be minimal.

Growth promoters can be of great benefit to the farmer when properly used, they may be harmful when used indiscriminately. Animals should not be slaughtered for 65 days after implantation.

STEERS

Two of the main growth promoters used on steers at Grange are Ralgro and Finaplix. By implanting Ralgro on its own a response of approx. 10% was recorded. When animals

already implanted with Ralgro were subsequently implanted with Finaplix a further response in daily liveweight gain was recorded. A further implantation of either compound later in the fattening period was administered and here again further weight gains were recorded.

Work is continuing at Grange and further results will be available in due course.

FATTENING HEIFERS

For heifers Finaplix or Monensin is recommended. The response is much lower in heifers than in steers. Where a combination of Ralgro and Finaplix was used no added effect in terms of liveweight gain was recorded.

CALVES

Ralgro is the growth promoter one would consider using in calves. Trials at Grange have shown no response in one trial with bull calves while in a second trial there was a worthwhile response when calves were castrated. Other results mainly from the U.S. show an 8-12 per cent increase in daily gain in calves. The use of Ralgro may be an important method of increasing weaning weight provided animals are on a high plane of nutrition.

Again increased daily gains of 10-14 per cent have been obtained with yearling cattle in spring at grass following Ralgro. It is not clear whether this increased liveweight is maintained to slaughter but trials are in progress to answer this question.

The main point in Dr. Roche's work clearly shows that the extra weight recorded from the use of growth promoters is in the form of lean meat and not fat. When this is translated into money terms it means that an extra profit of £15 to £20 per animal is possible.

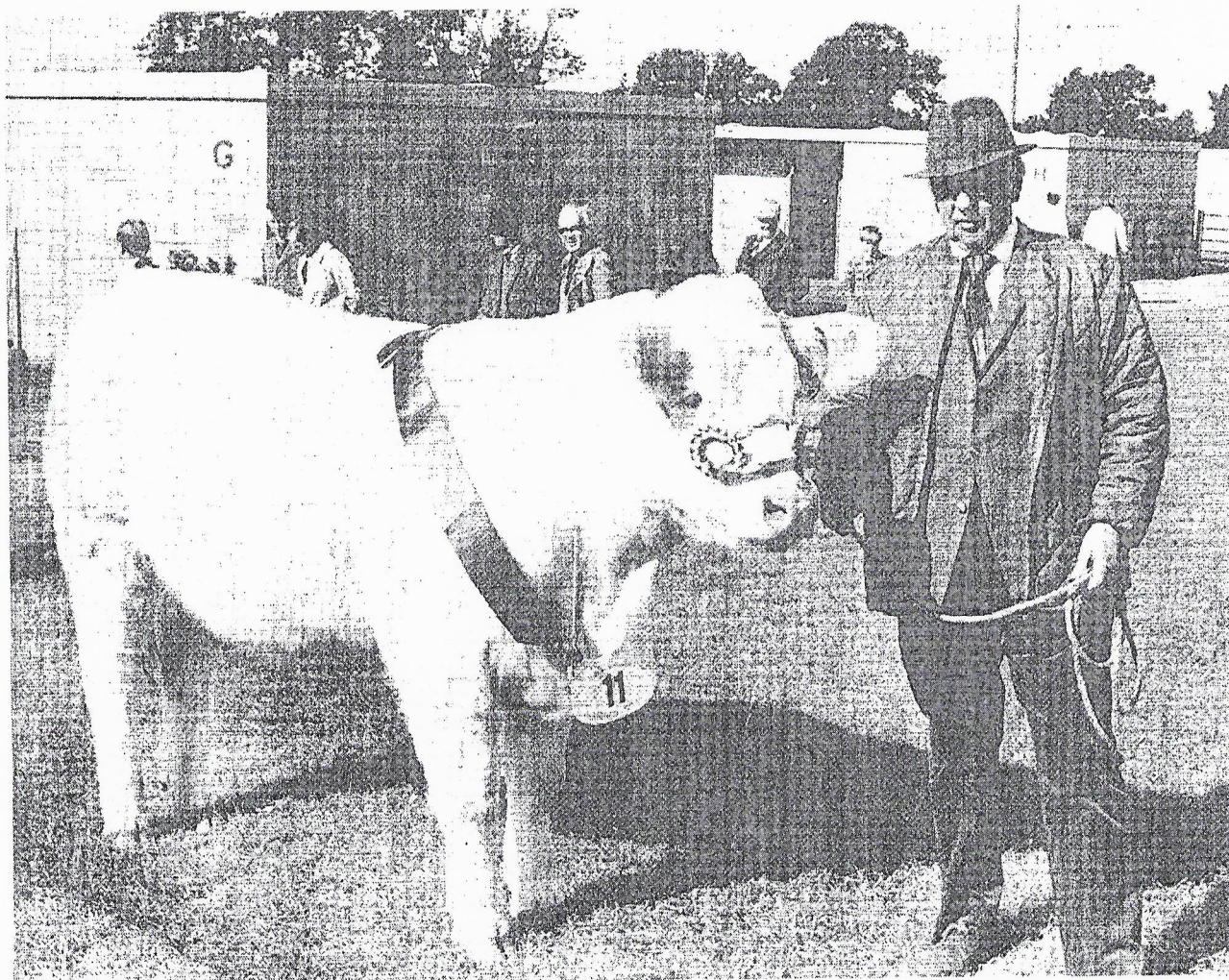
BUT TWO VERY CLEAR 'DONT'S' WERE EXPRESSED BY DR. ROCHE.

1. Do not use in breeding females.
2. Do not use in breeding bulls.

None of the available growth promoters should be used in breeding females as they can affect reproductive efficiency.

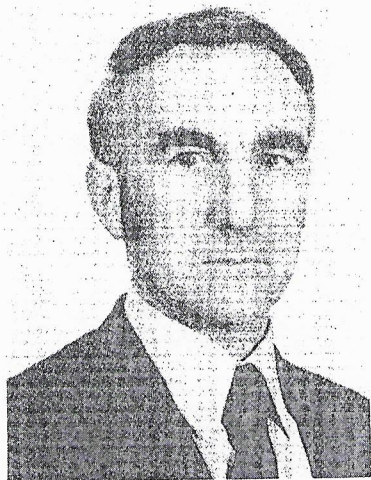
In bulls growth promoters can effect certain hormones in the body and as such may cause infertility.

As all pedigree breeders know infertility in your herd can drastically reduce your profits for the year. If the thought has crossed your mind of using growth promoters in your pedigree cattle then be wary as the short term gain may prove to be a long term disaster.



Champion Female 'Currarange Mariana' at the September Show and Sales in Goffs, seen here with her owner, Mr. J. J. McGrath, Currarange Grange, Kildare. 'Currarange Mariana' sold for 7,500 guineas to Mr. Omar Vanlandeghem, Skidoo Stud, Ballboughal, Co. Dublin.

AS THE EXPERTS SEE US



Dr. Austin Mescall

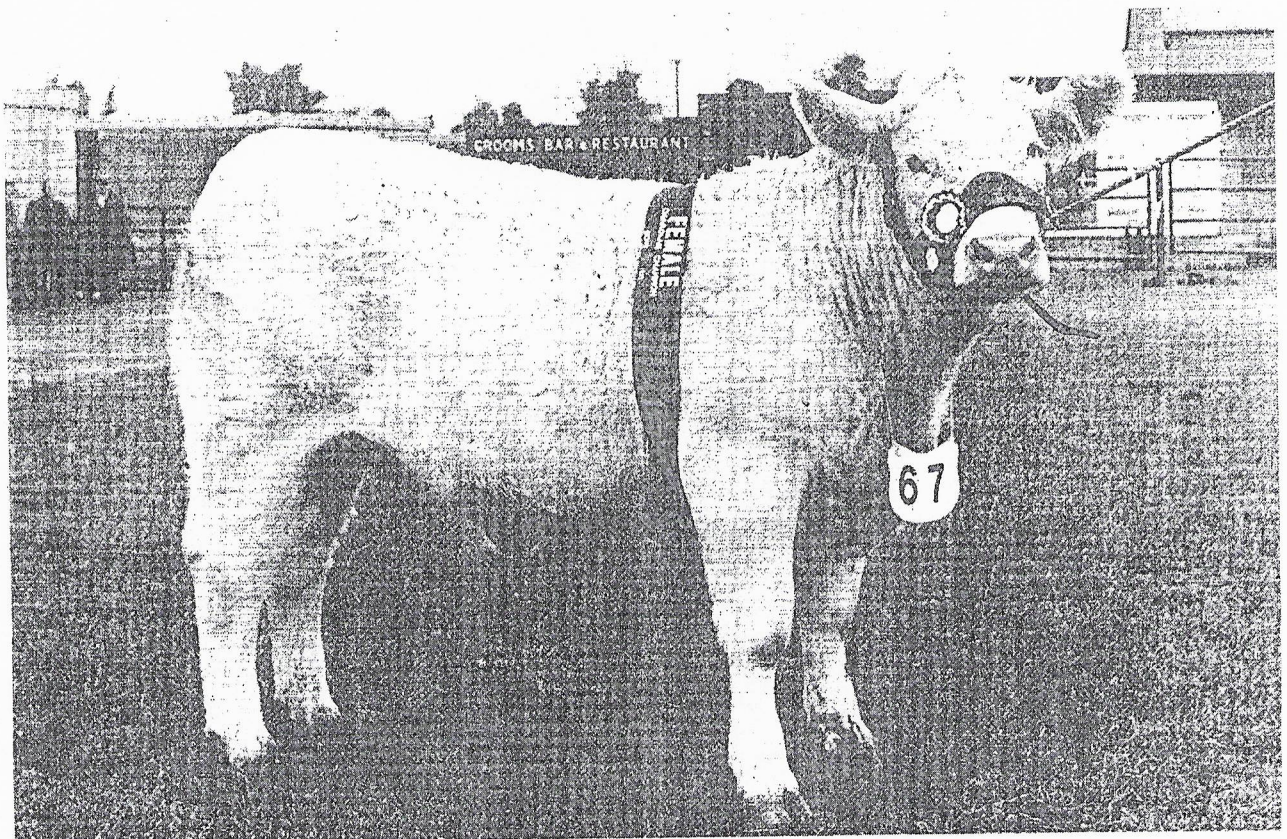
Recently, Dr. Austin Mescall Chief Livestock Inspector in the Dept. of Agriculture was interviewed by Mr. Walter Feely, Sec. of the I.C.C.S.

- Q. Dr. Mescall what do you think of the standard of Charolais in Ireland?
- A. In my view the standard is very high, I think excellent cattle were selected in France. The proof is that the offspring of these cattle have been so successful, in fact a number of pedigree stock have been exported to other countries, from bulls standing in this country and are generally agreed to be up to the standard of any cattle that might have come out of France.
- Q. Was the right type of Charolais imported?
- A. I certainly believe it was, and in fact such an outstanding bull as Ambassadeur was imported in 1964.
- Q. Do you expect an importation in 1979?
- A. Well we certainly will do whatever we can to facilitate an importation in 1979 but it really all depends on the demand from breeders. Our anticipation is, however, that there will be enough demand to justify an import in 1979 and I am sure the I.C.C.S. will assist in every way possible.
- Q. As the cost of Charolais bulls in France is very high can you see any monetary incentive being paid to private breeders by the Govt., or even the E.E.C. to import bulls?
- A. Well frankly I don't see a direct money subvention coming from the Govt. or the E.E.C. for the importation of bulls. I would however, see a continuation of the support that has been given at all times to breeders in the matter of helping to select and facilitating the whole import to a very considerable extent.
- Q. Has the Dept. of Agr. any plans to import Charolais bulls in the near future?
- A. The Dept. itself does not have such plans at the moment but we would be very keen to see good bulls being imported by private breeders.
- Q. What is the minimum number of animals a breeder can import?
- A. Well most Charolais breeders at the moment are in the process of getting new blood, topping up so to speak, and in that situation I don't think the existing breeders would be required to import a specified number.
- Q. Can you see the licencing of bulls being discontinued?
- A. The position about licencing is that under the provision of the E.E.C. Directive common standards for the approval of bulls for breeding will be adopted throughout the community by 1980. What these standards will be I cannot say.
- Q. Provisional results to date from the A.I. stations suggest a swing towards Friesians, a drop away from Herefords and a big swing towards Charolais, will this trend continue and can you see the day when Charolais will be used on 30% of the Friesian herd?
- A. We have always found that predictions about breed usage are very very difficult, it is a difficult area in which to make assertions that hopefully would come true. We are very pleased to see increased usage of Charolais but further increase depends on several issues. It depends on an acceptance by dairy herd owners that there may be increased risks associated with the use of the average Charolais bull, that risk will have to be balanced against the increased price that you get for the calf. We would also believe that there are great possibilities for improved management in dairy herds, and that improved management particularly in times of calving would reduce, and even minimise risks of calving. There is an educational opportunity here to help to get dairy farmers to take the necessary steps around calving time to ensure that there would be minimal calving troubles with continental bulls. To what extent this can be done is a bit problematical. We would see too perhaps in suckling herds definite possibilities for increased Charolais usage. Again however, it is virtually impossible to put a figure on it.
- Q. Should more research be done on Charolais bulls for ease of calving by the A.I. stations, prior to the bull being put into general use?
- A. Well the present programme of calving surveys is pretty good and indeed we do have a lot of information now on bulls before they are very old because after all the bull is in service less than a year when we have in fact calving information. We have already I think done a lot of very useful work with A.I., centres in this respect, and we have identified quite a few Charolais bulls which definitely show reduced incidence of calving problems, these of course should be used not only commercially but also by pedigree breeders.
- Q. What can the Society do to help and encourage this assessment?
- A. Well my own feeling is that the Society should be very keen on this sort of assessment particularly in the sense of encouraging breeders to use bulls known to be producing reduced incidence of calving problems. With regard to encouraging the amount of assessment we think it is at a pretty good level. The A.I. centres are quite enthusiastic and beyond encouragement to breeders to propagate strains with reduced incidence of calving I am not too sure whether any other steps are warranted or even practical.
- Q. Can single suckling be revived?
- A. Well I take the inference here that single suckling has declined owing to reduced profitability. Certainly Charolais x calves will be one of the factors that could help in any revival because of the increased profitability arising from Charolais calves and the tremendous demand for them. Whether or not there will be an increase in single suckling depends on a whole lot of factors including perhaps the relative profitability of milk and beef. I would also see an effect arising from the application of carcass classification which if it sharpened and widened differences between adult cattle on a price and quality basis that should be reflected back we believe to the calf stage.
- Q. What effect if any would twinning have on the economics of suckling?
- A. Certainly twinning would have an effect but at the moment it is doubtful if it is at a stage of wide spread commercial application. It is a tremendous technique if it can be perfected for wide spread commercial use and would certainly make a very significant difference to the economics of suckling.
- Q. Do you see a grant being paid to owners of suckling herds to give them an income at least equal to other farming enterprises?
- A. This is a question which is often asked but to a large degree I am afraid it is outside national control because that sort of aid very much comes within the ambit of E.E.C. control. At the moment I don't visualise this type of aid.
- Q. How do you expect Charolais x cattle to grade under the new grading system for beef?
- A. In my estimation I would expect them to grade extremely well. We all know the tremendous conformation that Charolais x cattle are exhibiting and the main factors in the new grading scheme or more accurately the new classification scheme will be conformation and leanness. The Charolais excel in both of these respects so one would expect them to grade very well indeed.
- Q. Should the factories give a definite commitment to pay a premium on quality Charolais beef?

Continued)

- A. I think perhaps the factories will pay that sort of premium on Charolais beef. The classification scheme I think will improve marketing and also indeed improve production, by virtue of telling producers exactly what the market is prepared to pay most for. Even at present as all Charolais owners know there is a definite premium for cattle of outstanding conformation such as Charolais.
- Q. The cost of keeping a bull is high, to encourage breeders to buy bulls can you see the premium being increased?
- A. The type of aid that is implied in this question is not entirely within national control. It is the type of aid that Brussels keeps an eye on and I personally do not envisage or see that the premium payable at present would be increased.
- Q. What did you think of the result of the Nelson Bunker Hunt competition in 1978. By this I mean the system whereby 60% of the marks were allocated for visual assessment and 40% for on-farm recording?
- A. I think the system whereby judging points are split between visual assessment and conformation and points awarded in respect of performance on farms is meritorious. It is arguable however as to how the division should be, whether it should be 60/40 as was the case in the N.B.H. competition in 1978 or whether it should be 50/50 or 40/60. These are points for debate, I am not too sure that they are important. I think it is important, however, that there should be a division because the merit of the Charolais derives in the main from two things, its exceptional growth rate and its exceptional conformation, and it is important that due recognition be taken of both of these characteristics.
- Q. Can this competition be developed?
- A. Well I don't know about the actual competition itself, one would like to see it develop. It helps to quantify the main characteristics of conformation and growth rate, it helps to identify them as very individually important components of the overall merit of a beef animal and it also permits a judge to down grade an animal which is severely deficient in either one or the other.
- Q. We now have on-farm recording, also central performance testing, can anything be done with regard to progeny testing?
- A. Well in fact quite a lot has been done with regard to progeny testing. You are asking whether or not there should be central progeny testing, just as there is central performance testing. I believe that the progeny testing that is being done in individual A.I. centre farms is pretty well adequate to do all the progeny testing that is required. We have on-farm recording, followed by central performance testing and what you are doing after that with regard to progeny testing is really only identifying the cream of the cream and I think that can adequately be done at individual A.I. centres.
- A. Can you see any grant coming from Brussels towards the cost of progeny testing?
- A. Well there is certainly no provision at present for a grant from Brussels for progeny testing. What Brussels does allow is state support for progeny testing and this in fact is translated into fact in Ireland. Recently the Minister announced increased grants towards the cost of progeny testing. The grant for individual animals will be increased in the coming year from £33 to £40 this should provide a useful stimulus towards increased progeny testing.
- Q. Do you consider that the A.I. centres should co-operate and make available to all farmers the many proven easy calving Charolais bulls?
- A. The A.I. centres are continuously co-operating to provide easy calving Charolais bulls to individual farmers. The cost in some cases may be prohibitive but on request farmers can have straws from any bull in any A.I. centre.

BLUEGRASS NIOLANTHE – Champion female at Goffs 21st. November. This heifer is by SHAMROCK AMBASSADEUR and was exhibited by Mr. Pat Stephens, Rosanna, Ashford, Co. Wicklow. The heifer was purchased by Mr. G. T. Hawkins, Ballyhacket, Tullow, Co. Carlow.



1978 SHOWS

SPRING SHOW R.D.S.

"The best presentation of Charolais cattle outside France" was how the judge, Monsieur Pierre Dewavrin described the Charolais exhibited at the 1978 Spring Show.

Show Results:

Charolais cow or heifer (in milk or in calf or with calf at foot) Born prior to 1st January 1976.

1. Farmleigh (Imp.'70F) Etoile, a nine year old, exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh, bred in France by M. Philippeau Ferdinand
2. Simmonstown (Imp.'70F) Eclipse, another 9 year old, exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh and bred in France by M. Gaston Desmard
3. Glencarrig Lottie, a 3 year old, exhibited by Dr. Frank Austin and bred by Messrs. P. Doyle, Snr. & Jnr.

Charolais Heifer, born in 1976

1. Moyglare Monique, exhibited by Mr. Jim Ryall and bred by Mrs. P. Fegan.
2. Meath Minerva, exhibited by Mr. A.J.F. O'Reilly and bred by Mr. B. Monaghan
3. Farmleigh Maud, exhibited and bred by the Earl of Iveagh.

Charolais Heifer, born in 1977

1. Farmleigh Nora, exhibited and bred by the Earl of Iveagh.
2. Farmleigh Narcissus, exhibited and bred by the Earl of Iveagh
3. Inchanappa Nora, exhibited and bred by Mr. H. Reg Armstrong.

Charolais Bull, born prior to 1st Oct., 1976

1. Elmgrove Hector, exhibited by Mr. H. Reg Armstrong and bred by P.E. McCullough & Son
2. Legnakelly Inver, exhibited by P.E. McCullough and Son and bred by Mr. F. Harte
3. Castlemore Louis, exhibited by Mrs. Allnatt and bred by Messrs. Power & Brophy.

Charolais Bull, born after 1st October, 1976

1. Farmleigh Nero, exhibited and bred by the Earl of Iveagh.
2. Castlemartin Nantucket, exhibited and bred by Mr. A.J.F. O'Reilly
3. Inchanappa Major, exhibited and bred by Mr. H. Reg Armstrong.

CHAMPION MALE -- ELMGROVE HECTOR, exhibited by Mr. H. Reg Armstrong

CHAMPION FEMALE -- FARMLEIGH (IMP.'70F) ETOILE, exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh.

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LIMERICK SHOW

History was made in 1978 at Limerick Show — this was the year that pedigree

Charolais were exhibited and what an impact they made! From the prompting of local breeders animals travelled long distances to swell numbers.

There were two Charolais classes, one male and one female. In the female section 13 animals were entered and the male section had 7 entries.

SHOW RESULTS

Female:

1. Moyglare Monique, exhibited by Jim Ryall, Castlemartyr, Co. Cork.
2. Farmleigh Miranda, exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh, Dublin.
3. Meath Nadine, exhibited by Bart Monaghan, Navan.
4. Meath Maline, exhibited by John Dillon, Pallasgreen, Limerick.

Males:

1. Farmleigh Leonard, exhibited by John Dillon, Limerick.
2. Farmleigh Noble, exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh, Dublin.
3. Kilgobbin Neptune, exhibited by Nancy Countess of Dunraven, Adare.
4. Curragrange Nathan, exhibited by Jim Hayes, Saggart, Co. Dublin.

Outside the R.D.S. Spring Show, the Limerick Show is the biggest in the country. Over 400 animals of all breeds were exhibited. As Munster is a dairying area it is necessary to continue to exhibit Charolais at Limerick. I would suggest that the Charolais Society have a stand at Limerick in 1979. It is necessary to convince the Limerick farmer that easy calving Charolais bulls are now available. Thanks to the sponsors, Golden Vale Marts and a special word of thanks to the Countess of Dunraven for presenting a beautiful cup to the Charolais Champion.

JOHN DILLON

Footnote from the Editor:

The Charolais Society is indebted to John Dillon for the amount of work he put into the organising of the Charolais classes at this Show. I ask you now for your support for John and the Limerick Show in 1979.

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CORK SHOW

The exhibiting of pedigree Charolais cattle at Cork Show has proved to be an outstanding success. The Society, this year, became more involved by opening an information booth at the Show. Our thanks to the Ryall family for the decorating and layout of this booth.

Show results:

Bull. Calved between 1st Oct '76 and 30 Sept. '77

1. Castlemartin Nantucket, exhibited by Mr. A.J.F. O'Reilly.

2. Farmleigh Noble, exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh.
3. Kilgobbin Neptune, exhibited by Nancy, Countess of Dunraven.

Cow in milk or in calf

1. Farmleigh Hala, exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh.
2. Moyglare Henrietta, exhibited by Mr. D. Twomey.
3. Farmleigh Faribole, exhibited by Mr. Jim Ryall.

Heifer calved in 1976

1. Meath Minerva, exhibited by Mr. A.J.F. O'Reilly.
2. Moyglare Monique, exhibited by Mr. Jim Ryall.
3. Ballintekin Myrtle, exhibited by Mr. William Austin.

Heifer calved before 30 Sept. 1977

1. Scarriff Niamh, exhibited by Mr. W. Austin.
2. Farmleigh Nora, exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh.
3. Knockane Nicola, exhibited by Mr. Jim Ryall.

Calf born after 1st Oct. 1977

1. Farmleigh Noelle, exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh.
2. Knockane Naomi, exhibited by Mr. Jim Ryall.
3. Ballyriorta Orla, exhibited by Mr. Dennis Twomey.

The overall Champion of the Show, was Meath Minerva and the reserve Champion was Farmleigh Hala.

Our sincere thanks to our Sponsors, the Northern Bank and the First National Building Society, for making this Show such a success.

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ENNISCORTHY SHOW — 20th JULY, 1978

The upsurge of interest in Charolais cattle in the south-east was recognised by the Co. Wexford Agricultural Society in staging their Annual Show when they provided Charolais classes for the second year in succession.

The entry was somewhat disappointing and even more so was the fact that a number of these failed to appear at the Show. However this set-back was more than overcome by the standard of presentation and quality of the animals exhibited. Local breeders P. Lett and William Austin had to be content with minor placings on this occasion but feel certain that the experience gained will enable them to challenge all comers even more strongly in 1979.

Capt. J.J. Ryan did an excellent job with the judging and seemed to please everyone.

Shows (cont.)

Prizewinners:

- Class 1. Senior Heifer born on or after 1-9-76. Jim Ryall Castlemartyr Co. Cork with 'Moyglare Monique'.
- Class 2. Best female calved before 1-9-76. Earl of Iveagh Farmleigh, Castleknock, Co. Dublin with 'Farmleigh Fregate'.
- Class 3. Best bull, any age. A.J.F. O'Reilly, Kilcullen, Co. Kildare with 'Castlemartin Nantucket'.

Champion Charolais: Mr. Jim Ryall's 'Moyglare Monique'. Jim's heifer was also placed Reserve Champion of the entire Show, only conceding defeat to Mrs. Johnston's mature Hereford bull after a long deliberation by the Judges.

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TRIM SHOW

A joint effort by local Charolais breeders to have pedigree Charolais exhibited at Trim proved very successful. The three classes for Charolais were well supported and in particular the cow class.

The cow class had nine entries, the majority with calves at foot, and the standard was equal to that of the Spring Show. The Judge, Mr. Francis Harte of Monaghan awarded first prize to St. Etchens Estime, exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh, second was Kellsingram Jambee, exhibited by Mrs. C. McCarrick and third prize went to Glencarrig Lottie exhibited by Dr. Frank Austin.

In the heifer class first prize went to Ministown Melody exhibited by Mrs. E. Gardner, second prize to Mr. Luke McLoughlin's Trim Nina and third prize to Pelletstown Nanette exhibited by Mrs. McCarrick.

In the calf class first prize went to Dr. Frank Austin's 'Drumnaogon Oi' second prize to Mr. Colm O'Connor's Breemount Oscar and third prize to Mrs. McCarrick's 'Pelletstown Nuala'.

Our thanks to Mr. Tom Bruton for donating a beautiful cup for the Overall Charolais Champion of the Show which was won by St. Etchens Estime exhibited by the Earl of Iveagh.

In the commercial section cross bred Charolais completely dominated the scene. The standard was exceptionally high. Our thanks to the Sponsors for making this Show a success; Mr. T. E. Potterton, Trim; Mr. M. A. Regan, Solr. Trim; and Mr. L. McCauly, Blackline, Balrath, Navan.

We look forward to YOUR support for this Show in 1979.

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CAPPAMORE SHOW

Cappamore Show was founded in 1954. The cattle section for the first few years had ten classes with an entry of thirty to forty cattle. In those formative years Shorthorn being the dominant breed in the county the majority of classes catered for this breed. With the increasing popularity of Friesians and Herefords appropriate classes were included for those breeds.

This policy of offering accommodation for breeds relative to their popularity is still maintained. Hence with the introduction of the continental breeds — Charolais and Simmental — in 1972 a combined class was included for those two breeds. Two commercial beef classes, one for bullocks and one for heifers were also included at this stage. Those commercial classes were supported by Charolais breeders from the outset and this trend has continued with greater emphasis.

In 1978 a class was included for non pedigree Charolais and was very well supported having an entry of 14 outstanding animals.

The success of this latter class has been very encouraging and we envisage including additional Charolais classes in 1979 to cater for the increasing popularity of the breed in the area.

Patrick Ryan, Hon. Secretary.

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THE WEST AWAKE!

A report on Strokestown Charolais Club.

The West of Ireland has always been renowned for its store cattle and stockmanship. It was thus not surprising that Strokestown was selected as the centre for the Republic of Ireland's first Charolais Club. A meeting was called in the late Spring by the Irish Charolais Council and a local Committee elected. The main trust of the Club is to promote the Charolais breed at commercial and pedigree level.

In order to do this, it is essential to present the breed at its best and show it in places which already have a reputation and standard.

The Club Committee were fortunate that Strokestown Agricultural Show has a reputation of being one of the best shows in Ireland, and in that, the Organisers were eager to see pedigree Charolais exhibited at their Show. Having circulated all the noted breeders from Cork to Dublin, and Cavan to Galway, the Club waited for a positive response to its appeal for exhibitors. Not in its wildest dreams could it have hoped for such a large entry. The success of the pedigree section which consisted of a male and female class was not due so much to the efforts of the Club, but to the tremendous loyalty of the Irish Charolais Breeders who gave their unqualified support. The honours of the day went to Frank Harte whose bull won its class, and a beautiful silver Rose Bowl presented by Bart Monaghan, Navan, Co. Meath. Jim Ryall's heifer all the way from Cork, collected the McGrath Cup in the Female class, and was later Reserve Champion of the Show.

In the Commercial Section the Club presented a silver Trophy, this was won by John Smith, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim with his no teeth Charolais steer. A Charolais bullock owned by Beirne Bros., Ballykenny House, Longford took the prize for the best bullock of the Show.

While the showing is the window for our produce, we must also back this with up-to-

date information on the breed. To attain this end the Club set up and staffed a caravan in the Show-grounds, and provided hand-outs on Charolais bulls available at various A.I. stations. Here we must compliment the excellent job done by Mrs. Gillfillan and her staff, in providing refreshments for the hundreds of people who called. Membership Cards for the Club were also on sale Show Day, and members of the Charolais Council made themselves available to discuss any points relating to the breed.

All in all the Club can look on its first major event with the satisfaction of a job well done, however, there can be no room for complacency. Success can only be measured by the quality of animals produced at pedigree level, and the extent to which the commercial market is cornered. This will only be done if we attend to good Public Relations, and by presenting the breed and its potential, in a factual manner, to those interested farmers. The Club looks forward to its second year and already has made arrangements for pedigree Charolais to be exhibited at Longford Show, also renowned as a famous Midland Show. Discussions have been taking place with the representatives of a western Mart concerning a prestigious fatstock Show in early Autumn.

The Club would like to thank all those who travelled long distances to exhibit at our Show, also to Club Members who provided overnight accommodation for exhibitors and stock. A special word of thanks to North-Connaught Farmers Co-Op and Duignans Animals Foods, Dromod, who kindly sponsored the classes, and to Mr. Omer VanLandeghem, Ballyboughal Co. Dublin, who came to judge the classes. We look forward to meeting you all next year.

Secretary,
SEAMUS CASEY

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COMMENTARY

It is paying to use continental bulls

One of the most remarkable features of the livestock trade this summer is the buoyant demand for Charolais and other colour marked Continental cattle.

The demand is effective at all levels: calves are readily making over £100, suckled weanlings are selling like hot buns and at store level prices are running up to £50 per cwt. There is a good economic case for using the easy calving A.I. Charolais bulls in dairy herds.

I know a number of farmers who are fully pleased with their calving performance. In suckler herds, it is economic lunacy not to use a Continental bull. The advantage of the Continentals will become more apparent when official grading is introduced in meat factories.

Reproduced from
Irish Farmers Journal

OFFICIAL CHAROLAIS SHOWS AND SALES – 1979

CARRICK-ON-SHANNON 13th & 14th February
 R.D.S. Dublin 13th March
 KILKENNY 22nd March
 TULLY, Co. Kildare 3rd April
 GOFFS, Co. Kildare 4th April
 CARRICK-ON-SHANNON 17th & 18th April
 R.D.S. Dublin 2nd May

Two sales will be held at Goffs in the Autumn
 One fully certified and one mixed sale.

Particulars from:
THE SECRETARY,
 Irish Charolais Cattle Society Limited, Irish
 Farm Centre, Bluebell, Dublin 12. Telephone
 (01) 501166

OFFICIAL CHAROLAIS SALES
 Best for Buyer and Seller

BRUCELLA

Is YOUR herd brucellosis certified?

Now that the market for pedigree Charolais cattle to the North of Ireland and Scotland is confined to animals from fully brucellosis and tuberculosis certified herds, it is more important than ever that each herd owner should look into the possibility of having his herd cleared of these diseases.

To become free of brucellosis means working in close liaison with your Veterinary Surgeon and District Veterinary Officer. Stock-proof fences and a good water supply are some of the more important requisites.

Even if the export of Charolais was not a major consideration, and I am sure you will agree that it is, it would be economic lunacy not to have your herd certified free of T.B. and Brucellosis. One infected animal can and does cause havoc within a herd.

A visit to your District Veterinary Officer will be well rewarded. It is now possible, even outside the clearance areas, to have your herd fully certified.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Larch Hill,
 Loughrea,
 Co. Galway.
 July, 1978

Dear Mr. Feely,
 I think you might be interested to hear about the calving record of our Charolais bull 'Glencara Labienus' which we bought in Tully in 1976.

He has sired two lots of Charolais/Shorthorn calves on the commercial herd, as well as pedigree calves on our 4 Charolais heifers.

We have had far less trouble with calving than we had previously with Hereford bulls. This year 48 calves were born and not one required any assistance whatsoever. All were born alive and well. This is in spite of the fact that when choosing the bull we went for a good blood line rather than a family history of easy calving.

Yours faithfully,
 Jean Fitzgerald (Mrs.)

THE 'STAR' CATTLE HANDLER

The 'Star' Cattle Handler has been developed by S.H. WATTERSON (ENGINEERING) LTD., Magherafelt, N.I. to make the work of farmers and veterinary surgeons easier and safer.

Although intended for hoof paring and treating lameness a range of treatments can be carried out when the animal is lying on the table. The position in which the animal is held can be compared to that of a patient on a surgeon's operating table.

A surprising feature of the machine is how quiet the animal lies. This is due to the straps having an immobilising effect. The use of a hydraulic ram to tilt the table minimises the stress to which the animal is subject, as the tilting is carried out in a relatively quick smooth movement. The sturdy construction, coupled with the use of the hydraulic ram, means that the size of the animal presents no problems. Heavy Charolais have been quickly and easily treated.

I being a member of the I.C.C.S. would like a copy of the Irish Charolais Newsletter sent to:

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 Address _____

Please detach this slip & return to the I.C.C.S.

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