

IRISH CHAROLAIS NEWSLETTER

JAN. 1976

No. 4.

Irish Charolais Cattle Society

Irish Farm Centre · Bluebell · Dublin 12 · Ireland



EDITORIAL

'MAKING THE BEST BETTER' was the theme of the 1975 International Charolais Convention, and as that year has now drawn to a close let us reflect, and ask ourselves; what have I done to make the BEST BETTER?

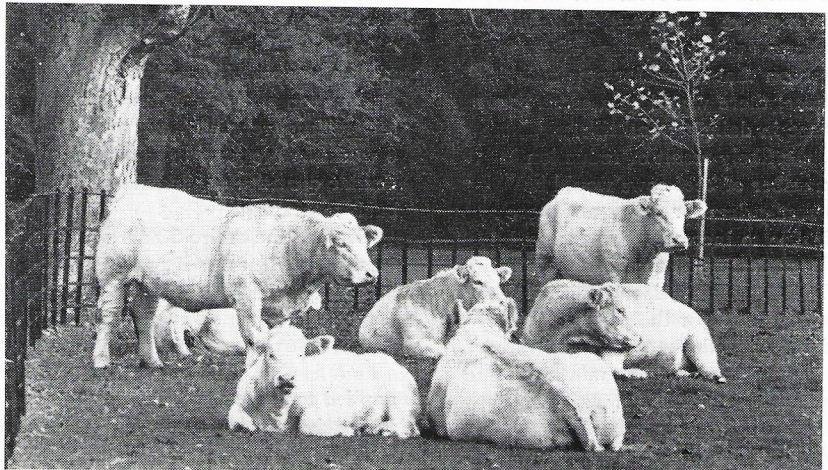
The beginning of the year saw difficult times for pedigree breeding, but towards the fall, things took a turn for the better. Bulls have shown a substantial increase in price, even allowing for the disastrous kill of the commercial cow herds.

As 1978 approaches, and this country takes its rightful place among the great powers of Europe, the demand for Charolais beef will outstrip the supply. The breeds that survive and flourish will be those whose designers and propagators are alert to the needs of the commercial producer and whose selective breeding programmes are adequate to serve these needs.

The trend now being established is for higher lean meat content and efficiency in producing this. Producers are aware that the Charolais animal is synonymous with these characteristics, all that is needed now is to convince them.

Our overall goal, both for long and short term; can be defined in unambiguous terms as one of **improving net economic merit**. In this context great care should be taken in selecting dams and sires for the production of commercial cattle. High milking strains may mean poor conception rate during nursing stage, heavy body weight may mean increased feed costs for cow maintenance; large calves at birth may give rise to calving difficulties. These factors should be carefully studied when selecting dam and sire so as to allow maximum return; Breeders producing Charolais sires should discuss these factors with their potential customers. In this way, the pedigree breeder and the commercial producer will combine to produce beef acceptable to the housewife of Europe at the minimum cost.

Late Autumn Scene in Ireland



13th World Charolais Convention

The 13th International Charolais Convention will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 27th April to 1st May, 1976. Breeders interested in travelling to Johannesburg should contact the Secretary for details. It is important to note that Registration and Tour Reservation must be mailed to reach the Secretary, 13th World Charolais Federation Congress, 317 Orient St., Arcadia, Pretoria 0002, South Africa, not later than 1st February, 1976.

Sales 1976

Pedigree Charolais cattle will be sold at five different sales during 1976.

Grade Register cattle will be sold at both Maynooth sales.

R.D.S. Dublin, Show & Sale, 2nd March. Bulls only. (20 on offer).

TULLY, Co. Kildare, Sale, 16th March. Bulls only.

MAYNOOTH, Kildare, Sale, 2nd April. Males & Females, also Grade Register cattle. **Closing date 2nd Feb.**

R.D.S. Dublin, Show & Sale, 5th May. Males & Females. **Closing date 2nd Mar.**

MAYNOOTH, Kildare, Show & Sale, October. Males & Females, also Grade Register cattle.

All calves born in the 1976 year will carry the letter M in their ear.

M—1976 Year Letter

Beef from the Suckler Herd

Dr. Michael Drennan, The Agricultural Institute, Grange

THE suckler herd consisted of 0.69 million cows in December 1974 (C.S.O. Publication) which represented approximately one-third of our total cow population. Their importance is illustrated by the fact that beef cows and their progeny utilise the equivalent of approximately one-quarter of the total arable acreage in the country. However, increased cow slaughterings during the past year due mainly to poor prices for weanlings in autumn 1974 has resulted in a considerable reduction in the beef cow population. Obviously, this will have a serious impact on the national economy which relies so heavily on beef exports. While results of Farm Management Surveys carried out by An Foras Taluntais show that financial returns from dairying and tillage are higher and more reliable than from cattle production, there is no suggestion that if suckler cow numbers decrease, there would be a corresponding increase in dairying and tillage. Therefore, the likely result of reduction in the number of beef cows would be increased prices for calves and store cattle due to increased demand and a resultant decline in the incomes of dry stock producers. It is, therefore, important both for the good of cattle producers and the economy generally that the suckler herd be maintained and increased where possible. This will only be achieved if suckling can be shown to give acceptable financial returns and in this context, the most important factors are: the number of stock carried, producing a live calf per cow yearly, high calf growth rates, producing a finished animal that will yield premium prices on the best markets (Continent) and keeping winter feed costs low (applies particularly to the cows).

Number of Stock Carried

Grazed grass is the cheapest feed for livestock. Thus, the aim should be to obtain high animal performance during the grazing season and to restrict animals, such as cows, when feed costs are greater. However, a major factor influencing production per acre is the number of animals carried. Therefore, it is necessary to obtain high production per acre (which means using high stocking rates) in addition to high performance per animal during the grazing season.

The work at Grange with the spring calving single suckling herd has provided information on the optimum stocking rate for this herd during the grazing season. These cows calve in February/March and are let to pasture about mid April when the calves are about six weeks old. Paddock grazing

is practised and an adequate supply of high quality pasture at this period ensures high cow fertility. The results show that 40 cows and their calves to 14 month of age can readily be carried on 50 acres of pasture. The 40 cows and calves would graze 22 acres from mid April until June, 26 acres from June until August and the entire 50 acres from August until the end of the grazing season in November. Two cuts for silage are taken each year, the first in late May (28 acres) and the second in late July (24 acres). This provides 9½ to 10 tonnes silage for the cow and the weaned calf in winter.

The pastures receive adequate phosphorus and potash and approximately 5½ cwt calcium ammonium nitrate per acre yearly, most of which is applied to the silage area. For each of the two silage cuts, 3½ cwt calcium ammonium nitrate per acre is applied. The application rate of nitrogenous fertiliser on grazing areas is 1½ cwt per acre about 6 weeks before grazing in spring and a similar quantity to silage areas going back to grazing.

Grazing the entire 50 acres in autumn means that 1¼ acres is provided per cow and calf and our work has shown that at least 1 acre must be given at this time to ensure calf performance is maintained at a high level. Additional nitrogen can be applied to the grazing area if grass is scarce during the season.

Cow and Calf Performance

The performance of cows and calves for the past grazing season is shown in Table 1. The cows were Hereford X Friesians second calvers and were in-calf

to a Charolais bull. Although the cows were light at calving, they recovered rapidly at pasture and data on re-breeding suggests that a 365-day calving interval will readily be attained. Average daily gains of calves from birth was 2.2 lb per day for bulls and 1.9 lb per day for heifers. This means that with an average date of birth of March 1, bulls would weigh about 660 lb in mid November. The corresponding figure for heifers is 570 lb.

TABLE 1
Cow and Calf Performance

Cow wt. after calving (lb)	770	
Cow wt. on October 30 (lb)	1060	
Cow wt. gain (lb)	290	
	Bulls	Heifers
Calf birthweights (lb)	85.8	78.3
Calf gain to October 30 (lb/day)	2.2	1.9

Breeds

Ideally, a small cow (low maintenance requirements) should be used. Milk production of the cow is of major importance in relation to calf performance and, therefore, the cow should be a relatively good milker. For these reasons, the most suitable suckler cows available are Hereford X Friesians or Angus X Friesians.

The bull used must be capable of imparting high growth rate to the suckled calf and should not give rise to calving problems. Preferably when using a cross-bred cow the bull should be from a third breed. Data obtained by the



Meat and Livestock Commission in England show that calves from the continental type bull breeds, such as the Charolais, are about 40 lb heavier at 200 days of age than calves from Hereford bulls under lowland conditions. A second advantage of using a bull from the faster growing breeds is that a leaner carcass will be produced which is likely to have a wider and better market in the future. It should, however, be noted that there is tremendous variation between bulls within breeds both in relation to growth rate of their calves and the incidence of calving difficulties. Therefore, care must be exercised in choosing the particular bull. Where a continental type bull is not available, these breeds can be availed of through AI which we have used successfully with spring calving cows at pasture. A vasectomized bull with a chin-ball device was used to detect heat and cows were AI'd on the basis of paint marks. This method however, was not as successful when breeding indoors in winter. AI can also be availed of by using synchronization treatments. Where AI has not been previously used on suckler herds, it would be advisable to restrict its use to the first 6 weeks of the breeding season and then turn out a bull. Due to calving difficulties, it is not advisable to use any of the fast growing continental breeds on heifers.

Winter Feeding of Cows

In the system outlined for the 50 acre unit, mature suckler cows are generally in good body condition at the start of winter. These animals can be restricted in feed from housing to calving without ill-effects. As a general rule maintenance of cow liveweight to calving is adequate. This means the cows will be over 1 cwt. lighter after calving than at the start of winter. Reductions in pre-calving feeding can also reduce calving problems, as it has been shown, particularly with heifers, that animals fed on high levels of nutrition prior to calving have greater calving problems. With increased usage of the larger bull breeds, calving problems will be higher and thus, it will be more important to avoid having the animals fat at calving. The 9½ to 10 tonnes of silage conserved for the cow and weaned calf will be adequate to carry them over the winter period. Silage intake for the cows is restricted from housing to calving but it is fed to appetite from calving to grazing. The weaned calves are fed silage (1st cut) to appetite throughout.

Where silage is scarce or is required by other animals, good quality barley straw can be usefully fed as portion of the total ration for dry cows. Results of experiments at Grange have shown that straw to appetite plus 4 lb meals (82 parts barley, 15 parts soyabean and 3 parts minerals/vitamins) is suitable for mature suckler cows from housing to calving. This means that on tillage farms

there is adequate opportunity to overcome any shortages that may arise in the silage supply. In each instance, silage should be fed to appetite from calving to grazing.

Finishing the Calves

Because of market fluctuations, the producer of weaned calves for sale in autumn is in a very vulnerable position and therefore, where possible, the calves should be fattened on the farm. At Grange, the weaned calves have been fattened for slaughter during the first winter. The calves were fed the first cut of silage which is taken about May 20 and therefore, is of high quality. This was supplemented with 6 lb meals daily over the winter period resulting in carcass weights (average for bulls and heifers) of about 500 lb at 15 months. Although performance was good throughout, the final carcass weights were rather low. Attempts to increase carcass weight by grazing the animals for a few months was not very successful due to relatively poor performance at pasture by animals fed at a high level from birth. The alternatives are, therefore, to provide a high plane of nutrition in winter and fatten the animals or feed silage and only a small quantity of meals and finish at a later date. The system to choose will depend mainly on the weight at the start of winter and the quality of silage available.

Economics of Suckling

To evaluate suckling economically, the 50 acre unit discussed previously carrying 40 cows and their calves to 14 months of age is taken. In this evaluation, it is assumed that no attempt

is made to fatten the calves at the end of winter so only 2 lb rolled barley is fed daily in winter. The calves are valued at 14 months of age and additional land is required if they are to be fattened on the farm.

Unit — 50 acres carrying 40 cows and their calves

Calving — February/March.

Weight at 14 months (Steers - 7 cwt at £26/cwt = £182; Heifers - 6¼ cwt at £22/cwt = £137.50.

VARIABLE COST (£)

	Total (50 acres)	Per Animal
Fertilizers	1,250	31.25
Silage making	800	20.00
Barley	382	9.55
Calf mortality (6%)	120	3.00
Cow depreciation	400	10.00
Veterinary expenses	160	4.00
Bull	160	4.00
Miscellaneous	350	8.75
Receipts		
Animals	6,400	160.00
Beef Incentive Scheme	560	14.00
	6,960	174.00
Gross margin	3,338	83.45

Miscellaneous — includes animal transport, calcined magnesite, slurry spreading etc.

The gross margin per acre is £67. If the animals were fattened either at the end of their first winter or later then a gross margin of over £80 per acre can be expected therefore, it is generally advisable to finish the animals.

Half-bred Charolais Cows with Three-quarter bred Calves at foot.



NEWS ITEMS

Canadian Charolais Association

I quote hereunder an extract from the official rules of the Canadian Charolais Association.

By-Law XIX Section 5 of the Canadian Charolais Association

"To be eligible for registration in the Canadian Full French Herd Book, using the prefix FFC or FMC, an animal must meet the following conditions:

(a) A blood sample of the animal shall be submitted for blood typing to the Health of Animals Blood Typing Laboratory, Ottawa, or some other laboratory approved by the Board of Directors.

(b) Animals imported into Canada directly or indirectly from France shall have verification of the dam and sire by blood typing by a laboratory approved by the Board of Directors.

(c) All animals shall have every ancestor back to Herd Book Charolais verified by blood typing."

This by-law ensures that all imported animals entering the Canadian Full French Herd Book will be parentage verified by blood-typing. We therefore urge that all breeders should, in their own interest, establish by blood typing the authenticity of each animal right back to Herd Book Charolais.

Irish Breeder Wins at Smithfield with Charolais X Angus Heifer

A Co. Meath breeder and farmer, Mr. Bartle McEnroe of Oldcastle won the Senior Heifer Championship at Smithfield in London. The heifer by Shamrock Dromod (IC 12 Sligo) beat over 30 entries to win the Championship. This bull by Vagabond (Imp. '64F) should certainly command greater attention from breeders of Charolais cattle.

On-Farm Recording Scheme

In order to conform with the Department of Agriculture's scheme for weight recording each herd owner has now been issued with Birth Notification Forms by the Society. This form is self explanatory and the conditions printed thereon must be strictly adhered to.

Breeders not participating in the scheme, must abide by the new rules and return Part A and Part B to the Society, **within 14 days of birth**, together with the registration fee and A.I. certificates where applicable.

PLEASE NOTE C3 and C5 forms are not now applicable.

Grade Register Cattle

In the case of Grade Register cattle it has also been decided that a new style birth notification form should be issued. This form incorporates two parts. Part A to be completed and forwarded to the Society, and Part B to be retained by the Breeder for his own records. Please ensure that each part is completed as the information required is of the utmost importance to your Society. **The registration fee must accompany the Birth Notification Form.**

Herd Book Rule 5

In order to comply with the rules of the ON FARM RECORDING SCHEME, Rule 5 of the Herd Book was altered to read as follows:

The birth of every calf alive or dead to any dam registered in the Society's Herd Book, shall be notified to the Society by the Breeder or his representative, within **fourteen days** from the date of birth of the calf on the Society's appropriate birth notification form duly completed. In the case of a twin or multiple birth this shall be indicated on each birth notification form and a separate form shall be submitted for each calf born alive or dead.

MEMBERSHIP FEE

Membership fee has been increased to £5 and is now due.

Bulls Exported to Scotland

The largest ever single consignment of pedigree Charolais bulls left this country for Scotland on the 12th September. The bulls will be used on both single suckled and Friesian dairy herds in Porthshire, Aberdeenshire and Morayshire. The following breeders were involved in this exportation: Mr. Noel Hayes, Kells Ingram Farm, Townley

Hall, Drogheda, Mr. B. Monaghan, Staffordstown House, Navan, Co. Meath, The Earl of Iveagh, Farmleigh, Castleknock, Co. Dublin, Mr. John Mooney, Killeglan Farm, Ashbourne, Co. Meath, Mrs. O. Donegan, St. Etchens, Monasterboice, Drogheda and Major E. A. Boylan, Hilltown, Drogheda, Co. Meath.

Charolais bulls are now demanding a premium in Scotland and this export can be regarded as highly significant.

Shows 1975

The Irish Charolais Cattle Society presented Perpetual Cups to the following Show Societies: TULLOW, STROKESTOWN, BALLINA, TRIM.

Tullow Show

This show from a Charolais point of view was an outstanding success. In all, it featured five classes with thirty-six animals taking part. The Charolais Perpetual Cup, for the best Charolais heifer, up-graded or commercial, was won by Mr. John Timmons, Killinure, Tullow.

The well known livestock exhibitor and breeder, Mrs. Slazenger, of Powerscourt, Co. Wicklow had two first prizewinners and one second.

In the calf section Master Eamon Bolger won first prize, with Mr. John R. Brown, St. Johns, second and Mr. Tony Donohue, third.

Strokestown Show

The competition in the Charolais classes at Strokestown Show was keen, and all classes were well supported.

Winners in class 44 (Best Charolais type bullock having no permanent teeth) were: 1st Mr. Richard O'Beirne, Bridge St., Strokestown, 2nd Mr. Paddy Harrington, Mount Talbot, Roscommon.

Winners in class 45 (Best Charolais type bullock having two permanent teeth) were: 1st Mr. Richard O'Beirne, Bridge St. 2nd Mr. William Farrell, Aughadegnan, Longford.

In class 50, six heifers were entered and here the standard was very high. This class included Grade Register cattle as well as commercial.

Winner in class 54 (Best calf, non pedigree, born in 1975) was 1st Mr. Declan Shiel, Bridge St., Strokestown. The first three places were all awarded to Charolais cross calves. The Charolais Perpetual Cup was won by Mr. Beirne, Bridge St.

12th International Charolais Convention—Calgary, Canada

The 12th International Charolais Convention held at Calgary, Canada in July 1975 can be considered an outstanding success. The staff of the Canadian Charolais Association, its members and other organisations involved combined in no small way in achieving this success. International President, Mr. Bill Hunt, was the perfect Chairman for the Convention and was ably assisted by the 1st Vice-President, Mr. Howard Johnston, U.S.A.

Mr. Johnston will be the 1976 International President and will preside at the 13th World Charolais Convention in Johannesburg, South Africa and Mr. Bill Hunt will be Past President. Mr. Ronero Huxley (Mexico) becomes 1st Vice-President and he will be International President in 1977 when the 14th World Charolais Convention will be held in Mounterrey Mexico. Mr. Soda of Japan remains as 2nd Vice-President.

The tours arranged by the Canadian Charolais Association to the various ranches were the highlight of the trip. The Irish contingent (18 in all) were amply rewarded for enduring the heat and sometimes long coach journeys, in the amount of knowledge obtainable from each ranch visited. Advice in abundance was freely available from the use of the computer at the Morris Palmer Ranch where each animal is plan mated and A.I. is used on a large scale, right down to the smaller ranches.

The Technical Papers presented by Dr. L. L. Lauvergne of France (Present State of Knowledge on the Syndrome of S.A.P. in French Charolais Cattle), Mr. H. F. Fredeen, Canada (Planning for Perfection) and Mr. A. Faucon (Making the Best Better) were of a very high standard. Copies of these papers are available from the office.

Summary of Technical Meeting

It is common knowledge that certain problems can be identified within all breeds of cattle and the same is true for the Charolais breed. The meeting agreed that Breeders should not become too complacent with the breed as it exists but that research should be carried out on ways and means of improving the breed and identifying any problems that may exist. It was also agreed that any worthwhile projects would be of a long term nature. The Canadian Association is at present conducting research on the Problems of Arthrogryposis and Palatoschisis (S.A.P.) within the breed. This research is to be funded in part by the International Organisation with all available data channelled back to each member Society as results become

available. Hence the request for an increase in overall contributions from member countries.

The Canadian Association is to make available a report on their findings to the 13th International Meeting in South Africa and I am sure all breeders of Charolais eagerly await this report.

The adaptability of the breed in diverse climatic conditions was hailed as something unique and the feeling generally that the words International and Charolais now become synonymous.

General Meeting

A total of 23 official delegates from 15 different countries were present. The delegates came from countries as far apart as France, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, South Africa, Ireland, England, Australia, Uraquay, Spain, Mexico, Argentina, U.S.A., Japan and of course Canada.

The F.I.A.E.R.B.C. membership fee schedule was discussed. The existing fee being 1.5F per member, owning full French cattle and 0.1F per full French animal. During the meeting a special committee was formed to make recommendations on future financing. After deliberation, it recommended an annual membership levy per Association of 1,000F, domestic purebreds 1F, full French within French Herd Book 2F, full French outside the French Herd Book 4F. This recommendation was carried on a show of hands but each delegate was detailed to have it approved by their respective Societies.

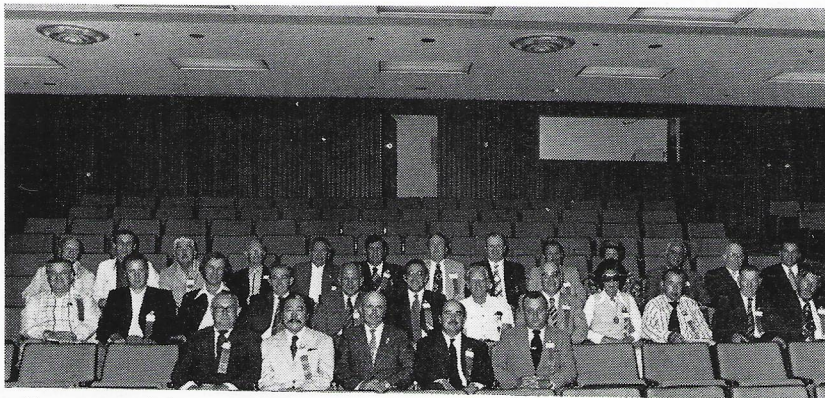
A further motion agreed to grant 75% of the cost of research projects submitted to, considered and approved by the technical committee, which are directed by member Charolais Associations.

From the Chairman of the 12th World Federation M. B. Hunt

The 12th World Federation was an excellent example of Canadian Charolais Association teamwork and a credit to the Association. It was also a good example of international goodwill and cooperation.

The CCA can be very proud of the confidence and trust placed in it by the attending countries and must, of course, be sobered by the responsibility of this trust. We have become a world research centre for Charolais with international funding. How far we go in this role depends on us. It would be impossible to adequately acknowledge everyone who contributed to the success of the Federation. I wish you could see all the letters of appreciation that have come to the office, and to myself from the attending countries. They are very sincere and were motivated by the efforts of many people whose contribution in many cases, may never be recognised.

I hope that any instances of discord and non-cooperation at Calgary will serve as an education to all of us and promote unity rather than discord, both nationally and internationally I feel quite strongly that the ultimate success of any breed Association or breed, must be closely related to the unity and co-



Front row, left to right: Ed Shurick, USA; Dr. G. Soda, Japan; Bill Hunt, Canada; Dr. Francois Maurice, France; Howard Johnston, USA.
Centre row, left to right: Carl Jainer, Swedish Embassy; W. Osterhaus, Germany; H. P. Thornton, Canada; A. MacKay, Britain; R. Robinson, Britain; John Betheras, Australia; F. C. Landon, Australia; Mr. Lopez, Spain; Miss Lopez, Spain; Walter Feely, Ireland; Pat Doyle, Ireland; Noel Hayes, Ireland.
Back row, left to right: Helmer Petersson, Sweden; Jan Persson, Sweden; M. Henriques, Denmark; Gunnar Stisen, Denmark; Hans Hessedahl, Denmark; J. Landman, South Africa; Harlan Rogers, USA; Dr. J. Gossett, USA; Juan Romero Huxley, Mexico; Mathilde Grandio, Argentina; Jose Chediack, Argentina; J. Ordriozola, Mexico; Maximo Fripp, Uruguay.

operation of its breeders. This has already been demonstrated by the track record of the CCA. Let's keep up the good work!

I'm sorry that my responsibilities prevented me from seeing more of friends and breeders at Calgary. I hope to make up for it during the coming Fall and Winter.

The Conception to Consumer Programme

Conception to Consumer is a progeny testing programme designed by the Canadian Charolais Association. The purpose of the programme is to evaluate the breeding worth of beef sires and to make meaningful progeny information available to the beef industry.

Results of the programme indicate the relative genetic superiority and inferiority of the beef sires tested, stressing the following economically important traits:

- (1) ease of calving
- (2) pre-weaning gain
- (3) post-weaning gain
- (4) carcass merit

Essentials in the design of the programme include:

- (1) complete supervision from semen delivery to carcass cutout;
- (2) use of commercial cow herds reflecting diversified management and a broad genetic base;
- (3) random mating of the test sires in the co-operating cow herds;
- (4) testing of all healthy progeny with no pre-selection at any stage in the programme;
- (5) detailed analysis of each phase.

Emphasis of the above points account for the respect the beef industry has shown for the C-C programme.

Note

The workings of this programme can be had from the Secretary and all comments by you Breeders will be carefully studied.

Complete swing to Charolais

I quote hereunder an extract from a letter received from one of our new Breeders in Co. Leitrim.

"Much has been written about difficult calving with Charolais. Since I took over this farm a few years ago I have used Charolais A.I. almost exclusively. Yet I never had a difficult calving. They also adapt themselves very well to the difficult conditions that exist here in the West. I have become very fond of them and intend to change over to them entirely.

Yours sincerely, Desmond Hunt,
Cormaroy, Drumshambo, Co. Leitrim.

Show and Sale Maynooth 1975

The first Show and Sale held at Maynooth can be regarded as highly successful. A feature of the sale was the number of buyers present and a substantial increase in prices. Bulls were in keen demand with a top price of 1,300 gns.

The overall Female Champion 'Kilgobbin Ida', an in-calf heifer sold for 4,000 gns.

The overall Male Champion 'Kilgobbin Jason' sold for 1,050 gns.

Results of Show

Class A Cow Class Incalf or calf at foot

- 1st Moyglare (Imp. '70F) Elite (Mrs. P. Fegan, Maynooth)
- 2nd Ballinagore (Imp. '70F) Flechette (Mellifont Abbey)
- 3rd Ballinagore (Imp. '70F) Framboise (Mellifont Abbey)
- 2nd (Mellifont Abbey)
- 4th Brandon Eclar (Mrs. P. Fegan)

Class B Senior Heifer Born on or before 31st August 1974

- 1st Kilgobbin Ida (Nancy, Countess of Dunraven)
- 2nd Scarriff Jane (Mr. F. McInerney)
- 3rd Scarriff Jacinta (Mr. F. McInerney)
- 4th Lowertown Joan (Mr. M. Flanagan)

Class C Junior Heifer Born on or after 1st September 1974

- 1st Simmonstown Leonesse (Cloghran Stud)

- 2nd Hilltown Lisa (Mr. W. McCartney)
- 3rd Hilltown Laura (Miss L. & Mr. C. Carrigan)
- 4th St. Wolstans Jill (Mr. T. Doyle)

Class D Senior Bull Born on or before 31st August, 1974

- 1st Kilgobbin Jason (Nancy, Countess of Dunraven)
- 2nd Glencara Justinian (Mr. J. Bellingham)
- 3rd Glencara Julian (Mr. J. Bellingham)
- 4th St. Etchins Istime (Mrs. P. D. Young)

Class E Junior Bull Born on or after 1st September, 1974

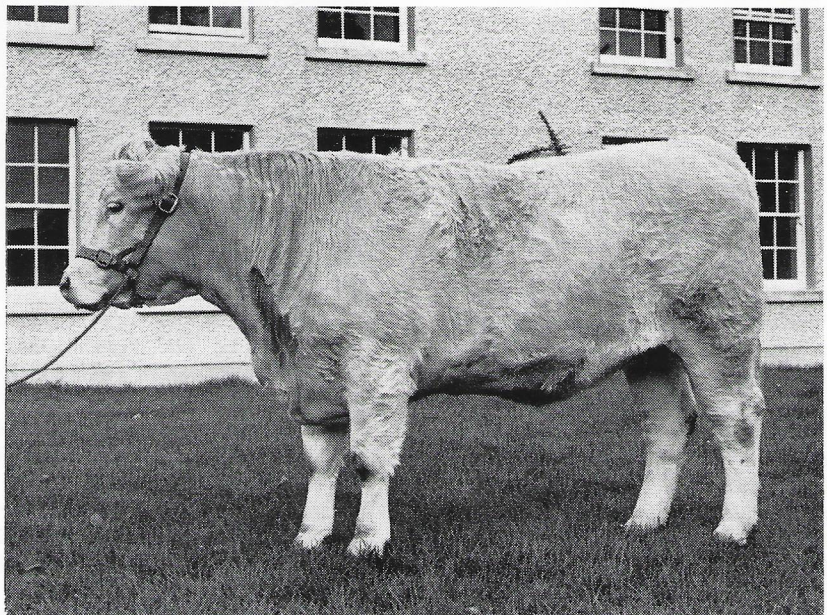
- 1st Glencarrig James 1st (Messrs. P. Doyle Snr. & Jnr.)
- 2nd Scarriff Jerry (Mr. F. McInerney)
- 3rd Curragrange Laudamus (Mr. J. J. McGrath)
- 4th Hilltown Jonathan (Mr. E. Doyle)

The overall Male Champion 'Kilgobbin Jason' was bred and exhibited by Nancy Countess of Dunraven.

Reserve Male Champion 'Glencara Justinian' was bred and exhibited by Mr. J. Bellingham.

The overall Female Champion 'Kilgobbin Ida' was bred and exhibited by Nancy Countess of Dunraven.

Reserve Female Champion 'Moyglare Elite' was bred by Mm Grivaud and exhibited by Mrs. P. Fegan.



KILGOBBIN IDA H.B. 744 overall Female Champion, Maynooth Mart, 10th October 1975

SALE RESULTS

Cows & Calves

Mrs. E. Gardener's Clonacody (Imp. '68F) Dynamite with bull calf Ministown Luke to Mr. B. A. Mullan for 2,400 gns.

Mr. J. Bellingham's Glencara (Imp. '68F) Dentelle with bull calf Glencara Lycurgus to Mr. W. McCartney, Co. Cavan for 1,280 gns.

Dept. of Agriculture's Shamrock (Imp. '70F) Exquisite with heifer calf Shamrock Louise to Mr. J. Ryall, Co. Cork for 1,700 gns.

Dept. of Agriculture's Shamrock Cyclamen with heifer calf Shamrock Laura to Mr. J. Ryall, Co. Cork for 1,750 gns.

Dept. of Agriculture's Shamrock Briony with heifer calf Shamrock Linda to Mr. J. Kelly, Co. Donegal for 1,750 gns.

Cows

Mrs. E. Gardner's Ministown Heidi to Mr. I. Robinson of Co. Down for 2,100 gns.

Mellifont Abbey's Ballinagore (Imp. '70F) Framboise 2nd to Mr. J. Kelly of Co. Donegal for 1,500 gns.

Mellifont Abbey's Ballinagore (Imp. '70F) Fabiola to Mr. G. Martin, Co. Louth for 1,400 gns.

Mellifont Abbey's Ballinagore (Imp. '70F) Flechette to Mr. Broderick, Co. Wicklow for 2,000 gns.

Mr. D. McMullin's St. Etchens Hereuse to Mr. J. Doyle for 1,000 gns.

Mr. J. Bellingham's Glencara (Imp. '70F) Fleole to Mr. L. Walshe, Co. Cork for 1,220 gns.

Mrs. P. Fegan's Brandon Eclar to Mr. C. Robinson, Co. Down for 1,000 gns.

Heifers

Mr. W. McCartney's Hilltown Lisa to Mr. J. McCall for 1,550 gns.

Mr. J. Bellingham's Glencara Juliadonna to Mr. Broderick of Co. Wicklow for 1,500 gns.

Mr. M. Flanagan's Lowertown Joan to Mr. P. P. Madden, Co. Meath for 1,800 gns.

Mr. J. Bellingham's Glencara Juliet to Mrs. Carville for 900 gns.

Mrs. P. Fegan's Moyglare Iris to Mr. P. P. Madden for 1,500 gns.

Mr. E. Doyle's Grangebeg Jane to Mr. G. Charlton for 1,400 gns.

Cloghran Stud's Simmonstown Leonesse to Mr. Lett of Co. Wexford for 1,800 gns.

Mr. F. McInerney's Scarriff Jacinta to Mr. J. McCall, Lisburn for 1,400 gns.

Mr. F. McInerney's Scarriff Jane to Mr. E. McCullough, Co. Meath for 1,900 gns.

Mr. F. McInerney's Scarriff Jennifer to Mr. J. O'Malley, Co. Louth for 900 gns.

Nancy, Countess of Dunraven's Kilgobbin Ida to Lord Iveagh for 4,000 gns.

Mr. T. Doyle's St. Wolstan's Jill to Mr. J. Quinn, Co. Louth for 800 gns.

Mr. T. Doyle's Shamrock Judith to Mr. J. F. McCall, Lisburn, for 900 gns.

Mr. E. Doyle's Shamrock Isadora to Mr. Patterson, Belfast, for 1,050 gns.

Miss L. and Mr. C. Carrigan's Hilltown Laura to Mr. Kelly of Co. Donegal for 1,100 gns.

Bulls

Mr. J. J. McGrath's Curragrange Launcelot to Mr. Taylor, Co. Tyrone for 310 gns.

Mr. J. J. McGrath's Curragrange Laurence to Mr. Breslin, Co. Derry for 410 gns.

Mr. J. J. McGrath's Curragrange Laudamus to Mr. P. Pentony, Co. Dublin for 730 gns.

Mr. J. Bellingham's Glencara Julian to Mr. K. Nash, Co. Kildare for 610 gns.

Mr. N. Hayes's Kelsingram Jasper to Mr. E. Moore, Co. Kilkenny for 360 gns.

Mr. J. Mooney's Killeglend Journal to Mr. McLoughlin, Co. Donegal for 600 gns.

Mr. J. Mooney's Killeglend Joker to Mr. Broderick, Co. Wicklow for 650 gns.

Mr. J. Mooney's Killeglend Jacques to Mr. McLoughlin, Co. Donegal for 360 gns.

Mr. J. Bellingham's Glencara Justinian to Mr. J. Kelly of Co. Donegal for 1,300 gns.

Mr. N. Hayes's Kelsingram John to Lannonstown Estate for 460 gns.

Mr. N. Hayes's Kelsingram Icarus to Mr. Q. Martin for 500 gns.

Mr. R. Bourke's Johnstown Leo to Mr. D. Gold, Co. Monaghan for 450 gns.

Mr. E. Doyle's Hilltown Johnathon to Mr. B. A. Mullen, Co. Derry for 780 gns.

Messrs. P. Doyle's Glencarrig James 1st to Mrs. K. Carville for 760 gns.

Mr. F. McInerney's Scarriff Jack to Mr. McFarland, Co. Donegal for 650 gns.

Nancy, Countess of Dunraven's Kilgobbin Jason to Mrs. Anthony, Co. Kildare for 1,050 gns.

Mrs. P. D. Young's St. Etchens Istime to Mr. C. O'Reilly of Westmeath for 610 gns.

Dept. of Agriculture's Shamrock Jeeves to Madame Hume-Weygand of Co. Wicklow for 430 gns.

Dept. of Agriculture's Shamrock Jason to Mr. R. Guinness of Co. Kildare for 700 gns.

Mr. F. McInerney's Scarriff Jerry to Mr. Harrison-Boyd, Co. Tyrone for 700 gns.

Mr. F. McInerney's Scarriff Lyndon to Mr. E. Rice, Armagh, for 510 gns.

Dept. of Agriculture's Shamrock James to Mr. Brennan, Co. Louth for 580 gns.

Mr. E. Doyle's Grangebeg Jonathan to Mr. N. Doyle, Co. Kildare for 400 gns.

Dept. of Agriculture's Shamrock Independent to Mr. Miller, Co. Derry for 600 gns.

Mr. J. Bellingham's Glencara Lynceus to Mr. Martin, Co. Louth for 550 gns.

R.D.S. Ballsbridge Show and Sale 1975

The first sale of pedigree Charolais cattle was held at the R.D.S. Showgrounds, Ballsbridge, Dublin on Wednesday 7th May, in conjunction with the Spring Show. Entries for the show were the same as in 1974 but in the words of the French Judge 'Monsieur Jean Leppe', "the quality of stock and presentation of animals was excellent". Prices at the sale justified this view with the top price of 3,000 gns paid to Major Boylan for his full French pedigree cow 'Hilltown (Imp. '70) Esperance 2nd. The champion bull (born in '74) Farnleigh Jupiter made top price of 1,040 gns. This bull weighing 612 kg. at 400 days is by Farnleigh (Imp. 73F) Harmonieux and should certainly prove an asset to the Grangebeg estate. Bulls varied in price from 370 gns. to 1,040 gns, average price being 570 gns. Cows averaged 1,930 gns and heifers 1,035 gns. The champion heifer 'Scarriff Jane' bred by Mr. F. McInerney was withdrawn at 1,700 gns. This very well bred heifer by Shamrock Ambassador weighing 450 kg. at 400 days is an excellent example of the type of stock being bred in Ireland.

Overall Show Champion

The overall champion was again exhibited by Lord Iveagh. This bull 'Farnleigh Edouard' by Loughgall Archiduc must now be regarded as one of the outstanding bulls available in Ireland. After some deliberation M. Leppe awarded the reserve champion to Simmonstown Eclipse bred in France by M. Desmard Gaston.

The Society is indebted to Monsieur Leppe for his impartiality in selecting the champions and no doubt it is hoped that we will be honoured at some later stage to have him return again to Dublin to choose the champions.

International Promotion for Irish Charolais Pedigree Cattle

C.B.F. have undertaken the promotion of Irish Pedigree cattle in co-operation with the Breed Societies. A general brochure has been produced and will be on display at all International Shows commencing with Denver in January 1976.

The brochure contains a short history of each breed together with some coloured prints. The brochure will be up-dated yearly by the inclusion of a handout giving a progress report over the previous twelve months.

It is hoped that this form of promotion will encourage international buyers to have a closer look at Irish cattle.

A Visit to Vichy 1975

Thomas Kelly and Eamonn McCullough

Arriving in France in mid-September, we were amazed to find ourselves knee deep in lush green grass. This was a striking contrast to a scorched and brown Emerald Isle. Moving south, by train, from Paris, we passed through large flat arable areas which gradually gave way to a more undulating countryside as we approached Nevers. From Nevers to Vichy — 100 miles further south, the land was continuously undulating pasture. The stock consisted mainly of suckling herds of Charolais, varying in size from 40 to 70 cows. It was amazing to see so many "white" cattle — we might have been north of Navan with suckling cows replacing big Hereford bullocks, complete with the back drop of stately trees in large rolling fields. There seemed to be large farms with very old buildings needing repair, in fact very few new buildings were visible. Fields were uneven having been badly poached in winter even though it is general to house cattle from December to April.

Vichy 1975 Show

Vichy to the Charolais breeder is what Dublin Horse Show is to the Irish Horse Breeder. One senses the heart beat of the Charolais at the three day exhibition of Europe's premier beef breed. The famous names in the catalogue, the familiar faces from journals and most important of all the quantity and quality of cattle combine to instil no mean feeling of excitement.

The first day of the Show was confined to judging animals over 1 year old. Judging commenced at 9 a.m., continued until mid-day and took place in three separate rings. The type of animal which the Judges consistently opted for were well muscled quality cattle. There was no real indication that the French are in any way concerned with size and range in their prize winning animals, though, we found it difficult to buy the bigger animals.

Show Champions

As is usual, judging of the champions attracted much attention. In the male section we had an extremely well developed mature bull from a previously unknown breeder M. Goireau, which was placed first. This bull had better muscling than a taller bull from M. Jean Bonner, subsequently placed as reserve.

The senior female champion was exhibited by M. Marcel DeVilliard. This big cow had wonderful breed character and carriage.

In the afternoon there was a group

prize, for herds under 60 cows. The group consisted of 4 cows, 2 calves and 1 bull. This prize was carried by M. Paul Pacaud under very strong competition. The award for herds over 60 cows was won by the Raymond Brothers.

The last day of the Show was devoted to the judging of calves. This proved to be the climax of a most interesting and educational show.

Visits to Breeders

On the established Breeders' farms the cattle are housed in modern loose houses with self locking yolk-mangers. Here they are fed maize silage and hay. Behind each manger there is a concrete area which is scraped with an automatic scraper. On these farms the grass was better controlled by paddock grazing.

The numerous visits to farms brought home to us the wide variation in type that can occur within a breed. In all we visited fifteen different herds ranging from 30 to 70 cows. We saw very impressive herds including those of the Vagne brothers and that of M. Lucien Voisin.

Gabriel Vagne, being the breeder of Enfield Helas (H.B. No. 985) held particular interest for us. Here we saw Erudit, sire of Helas, a very fit bull for his age — 7 years. Andre Vagne, Gabriel's brother, probably had the most uniform herd of brood cows that we saw. These were principally progeny of the famed Vaubain blood-line. One of these cows was mother to a calf recently sold to Mexico for the equivalent of £10,000.

Another herd to impress us was that of M. Lucien Voisin. Here a combination of good stockmanship with good cows gave very attractive young stock. On this farm 20-eight months old bulls, averaging between 8-9 cwt. were housed in a loose barn. M. Paul Pacaud had very impressive breeding cows with size, length and character.

The Raymond brothers have a very large herd of 140 cows. They were using a very good looking bull 'Grand Cafe' which seemed to be breeding well.

The last farm which we visited was that of M. Follereau. This man had the reserve group at Vichy and had a lot of quality cows.

Beef at a Premium

To conclude, it was very convincing to see such a large number of pedigree and commercial Charolais. The bull beef from these Charolais is accepted as premier beef and commanded a

price of £35 per cwt. — a premium of about £5 per cwt over Friesian and Normandy beef. The pedigree herds had very desirable cattle with big cows full of character. The French Breeder places much emphasis on muscling and on the amount of meat in the hind quarters. This is achieved by using a thick set bull on these big cows. Very few Breeders use A.I. extensively, most having a 4-6 bulls for a herd of 60-70 cows. All calves are weight recorded and these details are displayed with each animal at the Show.

We found the French Breeders most hospitable and interested in meeting us. Cofranimex helped greatly by organising our visits to the various farms.

Why Use A Charolais Cross Dam In Your Breeding Programme ?

Results from seven years trials by the Conception to Consumer Programme in Canada suggests that an extra weight gain of 50 lbs at weaning time (Over an average on test) is obtainable when the dam has a percentage of Charolais blood (half-bred or higher) with the sire in all cases being a pedigree Charolais Bull. This weight gain is carried right through to slaughter.

The theory held by most Academic Institutions describing Charolais as being a terminal sire breed has been dispelled with those results and a strong argument supporting the use of Charolais cross dams can be made. The improved performance of the three-quarter Charolais animal over the half Charolais animal readily points out the type of results which can be obtained in a grading-up programme. Results of this analysis provide information on several important areas. The Charolais cross cow calved the largest calf with the greatest ease. As Charolais blood is added to the dam calving becomes less of an issue. A bonus of 50 lb weight gain by using a percentage Charolais dam together with the added bonus of using a pedigree Charolais bull means added income for the producer. Charolais beef is now realising a price of £25 per cwt live weight, therefore, the choice of both dam and sire now becomes an issue.

Breeders involved in our own grading programme should be encouraged by those results.

The argument in favour of using a Charolais X dam with a pedigree Charolais bull must be publicised by our breeders and this will certainly pay dividends on becoming full members of the E.E.C.