



Marwood Orlando – Top price bull (9500gns) in Stirling Bull Sales – February 2021

## DISCOUNTED REGISTRATION FEES

The Society's goal is to establish the myostatin status of the female breeding herd to ensure all members are ready for 1<sup>st</sup> January 2024. The discount on registration fees in 2022 & 2023 is to contribute to the cost of DNA testing females and the sooner the testing is completed the more you can save.

From 1 January 2022, the Society will reduce the cost of female under 3 months registrations, that have a **known myostatin status** at the time of registration.

### 2022

Those registrations that meet the criteria above, born between 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022 will be charged the discounted rate of £10.00 plus vat per registration.

### 2023

Those registrations that meet the criteria above, born between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023 will be charged the discounted rate of £20.00 plus vat per registration.

Females born in 2022 & 2023 with an unknown myostatin status will be charged the normal registration fee. The registration fees will revert to normal on 1 January 2024.

## COUNCIL BUSINESS

A Council meeting was held on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 10am via zoom.

### MEMBERSHIP

Eight new members have joined the Salers Cattle Society since 1 January 2021 and Council wish to extend them a very warm welcome. If you have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact the office, your area representative or any of the council members. All the contact details can be found on the Salers website [www.salers.uk](http://www.salers.uk)

### MELTON MOWBRAY MULTIBREED SALE

There are 20 entries at Melton Mowbray scheduled for Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The sale commences at 11.30am and the Salers will follow the Lincoln Reds and Simmentals. A show is also planned although the format of the show has not been formalised.

### DUNGANNON MULTIBREED

There are two Salers entries at the multibreed show to be held under the Area 4 NI Club. The sale will take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 12 Noon. Further details are available from Area 4 representative Seamus Connell.

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Council approved a motion to introduce an Associate Membership to encourage commercial members to join the Society. The rate of membership would be £60 per annum but there would be no joining fee and herd prefix registration fee.

### PELVIC SCORING

Vendors at Official Society Sales who currently pelvic score their females as normal practice are encouraged to advertise the results in the official sale catalogues. Council support the practice of pelvic scoring and are happy to help advertise the positive results wherever they can.

## DISPERSAL OF THE AIDANSFIELD MAIDEN HEIFERS



TB4  
BVD ACCREDITED  
JOHNES LEVEL 1

**UNITED AUCTIONS, STIRLING**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2021**

**30 x PEDIGREE MAIDEN  
HEIFERS**  
**8 x COMMERCIAL MAIDEN  
HEIFERS**

**CONTACT UA ON 01786 473055 OR VISIT**

**WWW.SALERS.UK**

[secretary@salers.uk](mailto:secretary@salers.uk)

**07903 626249**

# 2021 Bull Calves

The year letter for bull calves  
registered in 2021 is "R"



## HERD INVENTORY

The herd inventory report has been updated to show members not only the active animals in their herd but also the myostatin status of each these animals. The inventory should reach all members by early April,.

1 - Please check the list and let Sian know what animals are no longer on your holding.

2 - Please use this list to understand the myostatin status of your herd and make plans to ensure animals from 1 January 2024 are automatically eligible for registration.

## TISSUE TAGS

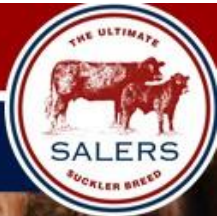
Our lab can now accept tissue tags to perform DNA and myostatin testing. PLEASE NOTE – these **MUST NOT BE BVD** tags but genomic sampling tags. The lab have confirmed that success rates are higher with samples that have not been stored for long periods and re-tests would be conducted using the traditional hair sample however if members already use tissue tags and would like to send DNA samples using this method then they can. Samples **MUST** be sent alongside a completed DNA form which can be downloaded from our website [www.salers.uk](http://www.salers.uk) otherwise they will be returned to the member. Members will be charged for testing on receipt of the sample. Please also ensure you apply the correct postage to DNA samples.


## MOVING ANIMALS FROM GB TO NI

From 1 January 2021 the UK has traded as a third country. This means that we have to use a two-letter ISO[1] country code 'GB' to identify livestock exported and we need to include a visual identifier which displays GB. Once in NI, the animal must be re-tagged with 20 days and this must be witnessed by an Official from DEARA. Currently zootechnical certificates have been issued using the original UK number as the herd book number, the GB number as the Animal Identifier but once the animal has been re-tagged in NI with the owner's own ear tags using the next sequential number the Department will issue a stamped document confirming the original ear tag number and the new ear tag number. This must be returned to the Breed Society Office so that the certificates can be updated to reflect the new number but retain the ability to trace using the old ID also.

# SALERS

**SAFEGUARDED  
FROM MYOSTATIN**





All registrations to the herd book must be free from myostatin from 1 January 2024

## TO MAINTAIN THE MATERNAL MAGIC

**MELTON MOWBRAY MULTIBREED**  
**27 MARCH 2021, 11.30am**

**WELSHPOOL SPRING SALE**  
**20 MAY 2021, 1.00pm**

ENTRIES CLOSE: 12 NOON, 2 APRIL 2021

## WWW.SALERS.UK

secretary@salers.uk
07903 626249

# 2021 Bull Calves

The year letter for bull calves  
registered in 2021 is "R"

## MYOSTATIN FREE BY 1 JAN 2024 – WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR MEMBERS?

**Every calf from 1 January 2024** whether male or female must be either tested free of myostatin (M0) or be myostatin free by parentage (MOP) to enter the Salers Cattle Society of the UK herd book.

### WHY?

The Council took the decision in March 2019 to eradicate the myostatin gene from the herd book to protect the maternal traits of the breed.

### WHAT SHOULD I DO?

- Use a bull that has been tested myostatin free (M0)
- DNA test your breeding females to understand their myostatin status.  
[Remember if you test your older females first and they are myostatin free, provided they were put to a bull that was free of myostatin also, then their progeny will be myostatin free by parentage (MOP)]

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Myostatin free females put to a myostatin free bull will give you progeny that is myostatin free by parentage (MOP).
- Myostatin free animals are automatically eligible to enter the herd book from 1 Jan 2024 without any further DNA test. This is the case for both males and females.
- The only time you would need to perform DNA profiling going forward would be to enter animals in a Society sale, to register calves by a sire or ad-hoc DNA profiling initiated by yourselves or to satisfy a member or Society query.

### WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I DO NOT TEST MY BREEDING FEMALES BEFORE 2024

If you do nothing, your costs will increase significantly from 1 January 2024. This is because you will need to DNA test all male and female calves to establish their myostatin status before they can be registered with the Society. The table below demonstrates the increase from 2024 onwards of registering 10 females and 2 male calves each year if the myostatin status of the cows is unknown.

	No of Cows	No. of calves to register	DNA Cost	Registration cost U3mths	Total Cost
2021 registrations	20	12	£50	£336	£386
2022 registrations	20	12	£50	£336	£386
2023 registrations	20	12	£50	£336	£386
2024 registrations	20	12	£300	£336	£636

### SOCIETY ASSISTANCE

From 1 January 2022, the Society will reduce the cost of female, under 3 months registrations, that have a known myostatin status, at the time of registration. Those registrations that meet the criteria, born between 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022 will be charged £10.00 plus vat per registration. Calves born in 2023 that meet the criteria will be charged £20.00 plus vat per registration and the registration fee will revert to the normal rate on 1 January 2024. Females with an unknown myostatin status will be charged the normal registration fee e.g. Under 3 months = £28.00 plus vat.

## FEBRUARY 2021- STIRLING BULL SALES

The February sale of Salers took place at United Auctions, Stirling Bull Sales, on Sunday 28th February 2021, which saw Salers bulls sell to a top price of 9,500gns with a further two realising 7500gns and 7200gns. 12 bulls sold to average £4856.25 (+ £26.25 on the year), with a 86% clearance rate. The event was held under strict COVID-19 restrictions where all attendees wore face masks and adhered to the 2m social distancing regulations. The parade and the sale were streamed live via the United Auctions webcam and online bidding facilities were available.

Sale leader at 9,500gns was Marwood Orlando a March 2019 born bull from R A & J Blyth, Elwick, County Durham. This bull was out of the Marwood herds best Salers cow, Marwood Jellybaby, who they described as having, "a super temperament, of medium frame, easy fleshed with a healthy bag of milk". Orlando is also the last progeny available by the sire Seawell Gambler who has done extremely well for the herd. Marwood Orlando heads to the home of Mr J Shennan of Girvan, Ayrshire.

Second top price was 7,500gns for Gill and Malcolm Pye's, August 2019 born bull Rednock Oregon who was sired by the 12,000gns bull Drumaglea Kes and out of one of their top female lines, he sold to Crudie Farming Co., Arbroath, Angus.

Judith and Pat Boyd, Drumaglea, Isle of Tiree sold Drumaglea Outstanding, a well-muscled bull sired by Django and out of Drumaglea Blusher, a Variegeois bred cow, for 7,200gns to John Mitchell & Co., Greenlaw, Berwickshire.

At 5200gns, Gill and Malcolm Pye sold Rednock Odin, a March 2019 bull sired by Rigel Officer who is in the top 5% of the breed for growth, to Mr A Young, of Girvan, Ayrshire. Following closely behind for the Rednock Team at 4,000gns was Rednock Onyx, a thick fleshy bull and full brother to the top priced May 2019 Stirling Bull Sale Champion, Rednock Mercury. Onyx goes to the home of W S Howat, Cupar, Fife.

Two bulls realised 3500gns, the first was Judith and Pat Boyd's, Drumaglea Oreo, a Sancy son out of an excellent female breeder Cumbrian Rouge 472 he sold to J Martin, Dalry, Ayrshire and next was Gerald and Morag Smith's Drumsleed Olympus, sired by a homebred bull Drumsleed Figaro by Gulliver and out of Rednock Theresa Poll. Olympus was secured by I Dickson, Scalpsie Farm, Isle of Bute.

Drumaglea Oliver by the meaty Champion Bronson and out of the tall, traditional, milky cow Drumaglea Wilma was purchased for 3,200 gns by W & N Lawrence, Blackpotts, Ellon and at the same money Drumsleed Olympic, a Rigel Kurt son out of Drumsleed Grace heads to G T & S Coghill, Muce, Orkney.

John Mitchell & Co., Greenlaw, Berwickshire, purchased his second bull of the day for 3000gns from Niall and Katie Blair. Cammock Octavia, a January 2019 born bull, out of the lovely dam Beeston Hall Hattie who produced the joint top priced Salers bull in Stirling Bull Sales, October 2018. Edgerston Trading (2006) Ltd also realised 3000gns for Kaimburn Oscar, a May 2019 born, Bacardi Ladysman son out of a Oaklands Hispanic who sold to W Stevenson, Auchenflower, Ayrshire.

The second bull from Cammock Salers from Niall and Katie Blair, Cammock Orion was purchased by W S L Muir, Stenness, Orkney for 2700gns.



Lot 172, 2700gns	W S L Muir	ORKNEY
Lot 173, 3000gns	John Mitchell & Co	BERWICKSHIRE
Lot 174, 3200gns	W & N Lawrence	ABERDEENSHIRE
Lot 176, 9500gns	James Shennan & Sons	AYRSHIRE
Lot 177, 3200gns	G T & S Coghill	ORKNEY
Lot 179, 5200gns	Andrew B Young	AYRSHIRE
Lot 183, 7200gns	John Mitchell & Co	BERWICKSHIRE
Lot 185, 3000gns	W Stevenson & Co	AYRSHIRE
Lot 188, 3500gns	J Martin & Son	AYRSHIRE
Lot 189, 3500gns	Firm of I Dickson	ISLE OF BUTE
Lot 190, 4000gns	W S Howat	FIFE
Lot 193, 7500gns	Crudie Farming Co	ANGUS,



SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> & MONDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2021



Lot 176 – Marwood Orlando – 9500gns



Lot 193 – Rednock Oregon – 7500gns



Lot 183 – Drumaglea Outstanding – 7200gns



Lot 179 – Rednock Odin – 5200gns

## BREEDPLAN MEETING, WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021 at 7pm

Present: Andrew Sleigh, Terence Pye, Malcolm Pye, Angus Gowthorpe, James Hallett, Rob Livesey, Iain Livesey, Paul Allison, Jamie McIntyre, Martin Tomlinson, Barbara Webster (Pedigree Cattle Services) and Sian Sharp.

### SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

#### MILK EBVS

Milk EBV's provide an estimate of the \*maternal contribution of a dam to the 200-day weight of her calf. They are calculated using the 200-day weights of the calves of performance recorded daughters of a sire or dam. For example, with regards to a sire this estimates the maternal influence that his daughters will have on the 200-day weight of their progeny or his grand progeny. Therefore, sires and dams with working daughters would have EBV's with a much higher accuracy. If there were no or few 200-day weights for weaned calves of their daughters, there would be low accuracy EBV's or no milk EBV's.

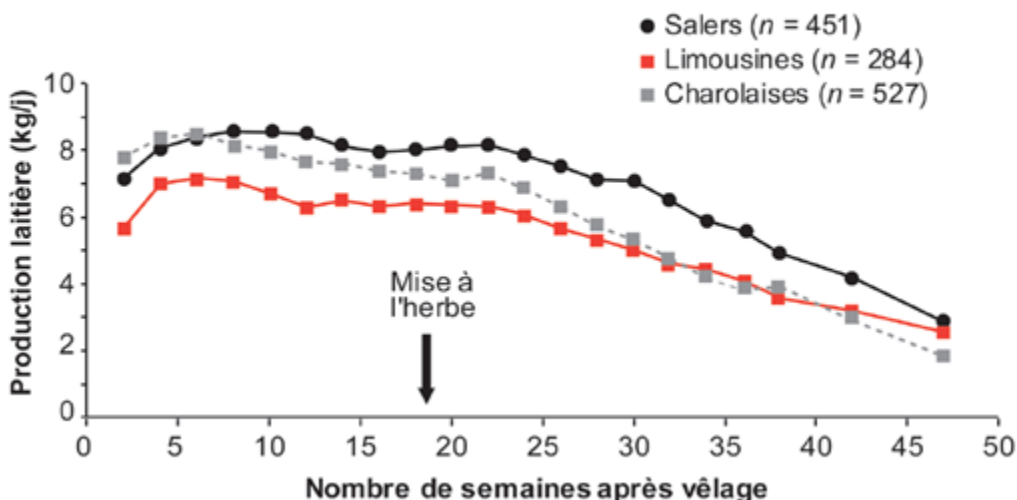
\*maternal contribution - this is a key point; it is not just about the dam's milk output but also her care of her calf. So, if she allows her calf to be bullied by other calves or allows other calves to suckle on her and in effect deprive her own calf of some of her output, then a milky but negligent cow would have a worse milk EBV than her actual milk output would indicate.

If an animal does not have an EBV for milk you can establish a rough estimate by:

$\text{SIRE MILK EBV} + \text{DAM MILK EBV} / 2 = \text{PROGENY MILK EBV}$

A paper from the Institut national de la recherche agronomique (INRA) was shown and circulated to the groups which demonstrated the milk performance of the Salers cow against the Limousin and the Charolais. It was agreed to promote more data such as this which demonstrates the Salers ability against other breeds.

**Figure 2.** Courbes de lactation moyenne mesurées entre 1999 et 2015 sur des vaches de race salers, limousine et charolaise à l'UE Herbipôle (parités confondues).



## ACCURACY OF EBVS

To provide breeders with a measure of the reliability Breedplan produces an 'accuracy' figure with each EBV. The accuracy gives an indication of the amount of information that has been used in the calculation of that EBV. The higher the accuracy the lower the likelihood of change in the animal's EBV as more information has been analysed for that animal, its progeny and its relatives.

## HOW TO IMPROVE THE BREEDPLAN DATA

The issue of different husbandry techniques across the country was raised with regards to the 200-day weight figure and members asked whether the number of records held on the Salers was sufficient to produce good, meaningful data.

Barbara Webster confirmed that the number of records held on Breedplan for Salers was sufficient to produce good data however the accuracy of EBVs across the breed can be most rapidly improved by increasing the interconnectedness of the different performance recording herds. Hence the benefit of performance recording herds using stock bulls from other performance recording herds.

On the Breedplan registry Barbara Webster can see the genetic linkage of animals, the more herds that have used any sire the faster the progress of accuracy of EBVs within the breed. Some other breeds had participated in the Young Bull Proving Scheme as there was grant money available through EBLEX to collect a "promising young bull" and distribute to breeders who were performance recording. This grant money is no longer available. The scheme improved the accuracy of that sire but not necessarily improved his EBVs.

To improve data members should ensure to record data from commercial animals as well as pedigree animals within their herd, submit birth weights and calving ease at registrations and record mature cow weights. It was noted that even if a pure Salers cow was mated with a Charolais bull in order to maintain the dam's accuracy, performance recording of her offspring was vital. All this data can be submitted from the ONLINE TRANSACTIONS section of the database where members submit registrations.

Scanning also improves data and provides a 400-day check weight. It also records a number of elements which are accurate measurements. Some measurements however negatively correlate to other traits, for instance eye muscle area and scrotal size.

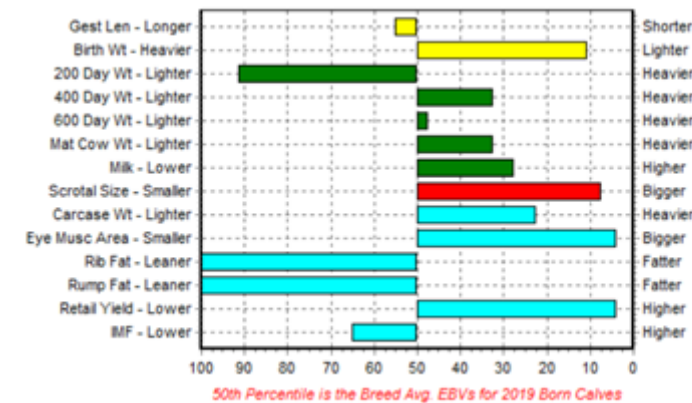
## PERCENTILES CHART & BREED AVERAGE

The Breedplan EBV chart that everyone is familiar with uses the current breed average from calves born two years ago to establish the 50th percentiles (centre line). E.g in 2021 the 50th percentiles will be 2019 born calves, in 2022 the 50th percentiles will be 2020 born calves etc. This gives an indication of how the animal compares with the current genetic level for the breed for each trait.

To account for difference within the calculations, Breedplan splits the animals by:

- Age – every 45 days from the date of the first calf born in the herd
- Male
- Female
- ET
- Twin
- Date of weighing
- Management group





Further comparison can be made from the animal’s EBVs to the Percentile Bands Table to assess exactly where the animal ranks within the breed for each trait.

December 2020 Salers BREEDPLAN Analysis														
	Gestation Length (days)	Birth Wt. (kg)	200 Day Wt (kg)	400 Day Wt (kg)	600 Day Wt (kg)	Mat Cow Wt (kg)	Milk (kg)	Scrotal Size (cm)	Carcase Wt (kg)	Eye Muscle Area (sq cm)	Rib Fat (mm)	Rump Fat (mm)	Retail Beef Yield (%)	IMF (%)
EBV	0.0	+0.1	+6	+18	+20	+24	+7	+0.6	+15	+1.0	-0.4	-0.6	+0.3	0.0
Accuracy	42%	68%	66%	65%	60%	45%	42%	63%	51%	35%	42%	42%	38%	28%
Breed Avg. EBVs for 2019 Born Calves <a href="#">Click for Percentiles</a>														
EBV	-0.1	+1.0	+11	+16	+20	+21	+6	+0.3	+12	+0.4	+0.2	+0.2	-0.1	+0.0
Traits Analysed: BWT,200WT,400WT,SS,FAT,EMA,IMF														

In the table above the EBV’s shown in white are for the specific animal. The lower EBV in purple shows the genetic progress of the breed using the averages of calves born in 2019 achieved against the base year selected when the breed started recording on Breedplan. Generally, these figures alter very slowly.

BIRTH WEIGHTS

Discussion took place over the timing, accuracy and variety of methods used to establish birth weights and the possible effect this may have on the birth weight EBV. The technique used to record the calf weight in the herd is less important provided the same method is used in a consistent manner across the whole calf crop. Without comparisons to the other calves, "occasional" measurements are of no value and can be misleading. Recording birth weight for dead calves is particularly important. There are also significant fluctuations in the weight of a calf over its first week of life. Therefore, it is important to weigh calves as close to birth as possible. Ideally, measure birth weight within 24 hours of birth. It is important to remember Breedplan does not use the absolute values of traits to calculate EBVs, instead it uses the variation of a trait within the herd about the mean value in that herd. It is these variations that are then compared with the variation of that trait in other herds to arrive at the EBV. So, for example is entirely possible that a herd with a mean birth weight of 35 kg could have worse birth weight EBVs than a herd with an average birth weight of 45 kg. Birth weight EBV’s can also be impacted by the 200-day weight submitted.

EBVS OF IMPORTED ANIMALS

The birth weight, 210-day weight and 400-day weight of imported cattle are detailed on their export certificate. Although these weights are classed as single animal groups, the system needs a weight



recorded to “pull in” information on all known relatives to produce an EBV (e.g. Birth Weight) which will help any imported bull which has parents/grandparents/siblings already in the UK.

## QUALITY CONTROL OF DATA

There are checks in place to assess the quality of the data Breedplan receives and if an animal's data is out with the weights/scans for the rest of that group the member would be sent an “outliers” report which the breeder must verify if correct or amend before EBVs are published for that animal.

## IMPORT OF DATA FROM OTHER SOURCES

Data can potentially be imported from other sources however there have been issues with data from other schemes such as SBS. Such issues include only recording a % of calves, this means the animals could be classed as a single animal contemporary group or mid parent.

## GENOMIC SCORING

Other breeds such as the Aberdeen Angus have started genomic scoring using 54KSNPs via Weatherby's this has been a three-year long project. The Salers breed has the potential to investigate this going forward and has already started collecting data using the 50K SNP since 2017.

## ACTION POINTS

- To investigate the publication of a maternal index and the associated traits – Barbara to submit a list of traits to the Salers Cattle Society office. The basic maternal index offered by Breedplan is composed of calving ease, gestation length and birth weight. For Salers the vast majority of births are unassisted, and where they are assisted it is due to complications and not actual bad calving's as other breeds know them. Gestation length is only based on calves got by AI, as BreedPlan won't allow observed bulling dates for calves got by natural service. The number of calves got by AI is limited, so in effect calving ease and gestation length can't contribute meaningfully to a Salers maternal index, so it would just be the birth weight EBV under a different name. Barbara said that we can put other elements such as pelvic area into our own bespoke maternal index, but performance recorders would need to collect a good body of data of any such new element if we wanted to have an accurate maternal index.
- To input imported weights data from export certificates for bulls into Breedplan on receipt.
- Promote factual data showing the Salers maternal traits against other breeds.
- Circulate summary to all participant via email and all members via newsletter.
- Investigate whether members would like to have further Breedplan meetings on specific topics throughout the year. **Please email Sian if you feel this would be useful. E: [secretary@salers.uk](mailto:secretary@salers.uk)**

## PELVIC SCORING / MEASUREMENT

Calving ease and maternal traits will continue to be an important consideration for suckler herds. To accommodate fairly heavy birth weights from muscular terminal sires, it is imperative that the cow herd excels in maternal calving ease which is why Salers hold 'The Ultimate Suckler' title.

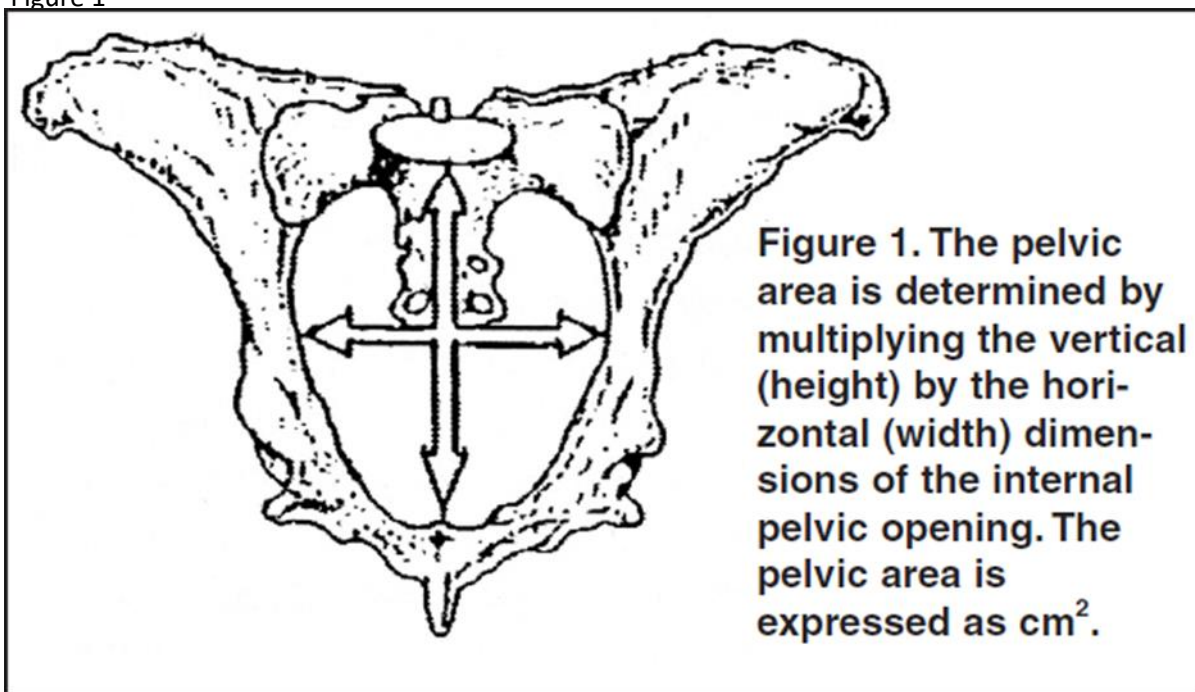
An increasingly popular selection tool being used by beef farmers to reduce the economic impact of calving difficulties is pelvic measuring and scoring. Pelvic measurements are a useful management tool to eliminate heifers with a higher potential for calving difficulty. Structural traits in cattle tend to be highly heritable and pelvic area is no exception. This means there is a large genetic influence on pelvic area and why industry technicians such as Stevie Rolfe have said, "in my experience, the Salers cow does on average have a better than average pelvic measurement".

### HOW TO MEASURE PELVIC AREA

A sliding caliper device referred to as a Rice pelvimeter is used to measure the pelvic area of heifers. The Rice pelvimeter was specifically designed for taking this measurement, which is determined rectally and results read externally in centimeters (cm).

The height (vertical measurement) is determined by measuring the linear distance from the approximate midpoint of the top surface of the symphysis pubis to the bottom surface of the midsacrum. Pelvic width (horizontal measurement) is measured as the linear distance between the shafts of the ilia at right angles to where the height was measured (Figure 1).

Figure 1



The pelvic area is determined by multiplying the vertical (height) by the horizontal (width) dimensions of the internal pelvic opening. The pelvic area is expressed as cm<sup>2</sup>. The best time to measure pelvic areas in heifers is prior to their first breeding season when heifers are 12 to 14 months of age.



## USING HEIFER PELVIC MEASUREMENTS

Research indicates that a normal yearling heifer (12months) should have a pelvis at least 11 cm wide and 12 cm high = 132 cm<sup>2</sup> or greater.

Average pelvic area growth has been calculated at 0.27 cm<sup>2</sup> a day from yearling to two years of age in heifers and continues at a slower rate until the cow reaches maturity. Some producers may wish to adjust pelvic areas of heifers to a standard 400 days of age. This can be accomplished by using the following formula:

400 Day Pelvic Area (heifers) = Actual Pelvic Area (cm<sup>2</sup>) + [0.27 x (400 minus actual age in days)]

A simple formula to adopt for older heifers up to 24 months of age would be to add 9cm<sup>2</sup> for every additional month of age after 12 months, for example:

Age in months	Size cm <sup>2</sup>	Age in Months	Size
12	132 cm <sup>2</sup>	16	168 cm <sup>2</sup>
13	141 cm <sup>2</sup>	17	177 cm <sup>2</sup>
14	150 cm <sup>2</sup>	18	186 cm <sup>2</sup>
15	159 cm <sup>2</sup>	19	195 cm <sup>2</sup>

This is based on the observation that the pelvic area increased linearly with age between 12 and 24 months. If pelvic measurements are obtained before being put to the bull, potential problem heifers with a small pelvic size can be removed from the herd. Since the larger, heavier heifers do not always have the largest pelvic area, all heifers should be measured and mated according to pelvic size.

## SUMMARY

Sires of replacement females should be selected for maternal traits such as acceptable pelvic area and sufficient milk, as well as for growth rate, conformation, and cow size appropriate to the farm resources.

The objective of pelvic scoring is to identify and remove prior to service those heifers that have abnormally small pelvic areas or abnormal pelvic shape, as these generally experience higher incidence of calving difficulties (and associated losses). It should be noted that once a sufficiently large pelvic area has been bred into replacement heifers, that little benefit can come from selecting for even larger pelvic area.

However, remember pelvic area and pelvic shape, are only a part of the story regarding calving difficulty. Follow the suggestions in the list below to minimize the incidence and severity of calving difficulty in your herd.

- Put heifers to proven calving ease bulls (low birthweight EBVs).
- Ensure heifers achieve target weights prior to service.
- Ensure that heifers are in good body condition going into the calving period.
- Obtain pelvic measurements at 12-14 months (prior to service) and cull heifers with abnormally shaped or abnormally small pelvic areas.

## HENRY CHURCH

Sadly, Henry Church of Rannagulzion Salers suddenly passed away on Friday 15th January 2021.

The Church family has been farming at Rannagulzion Farm, Bridge of Cally, Blairgowrie since 1966 when Henry's father purchased the land and moved North from Suffolk, England. The farm has 3,200 acres of rough grazing hills and sits 600 feet above sea level, rising to a high of 1,400 feet at its peak.

It was run by Henry and his son Gordon comprising of 230 Salers females, and stock bulls including four Salers and two Charolais bulls. The family also has a small herd of pure-bred Salers.

Henry had an affinity for the Salers breed and once said: "We saw Salers for the first time in 1988 and bought two unaltered bulls from Brian Walling, an original importer. We were impressed by the scope of the cow and its promised ease of calving and we were not disappointed as our calving problems fell by two thirds.

Henry will be missed by his fellow members and the agricultural community as a whole. Our thoughts are with his wife Liz, children Sophie and Gordon and all his family and friends at this extremely sad time.



## CHRISTINE MCCLYMONT

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Christine McClymont after a short illness. A private cremation will take place on Thursday 25th March 2021 at 1pm. The car will leave Penninghame St John's Church, Newton Stewart at 11am and travel out of the town, passing the market.

The Salers Society was set up in 1985 and Christine was the second secretary. She and Graham together spent a lot of time promoting the breed around the shows and sales all over Britain. She set up our journal and organised the first sale at Castle Douglas. From then on, she was a regular attendee at all the shows and sales and even managed to sneak in to last year's sale at Castle Douglas. She was always interested in the members, their stock and the pedigrees and was always up to date about the society news.

People were always one of her interests, she enjoyed entertaining friends and breeders and her hospitality at the Cuil was legendary. Over the years there were many good parties and social events and between cattle and sheep there were countless farm visits and open days where everyone went home well informed, well fed and well watered.

She was very proud of her family and took a close interest in her grandchildren growing up and all their activities. She bribed them when they were young with coke and biscuits to find out what was happening.

She will be greatly missed by her family, friends and the farming community.





### DRAGON SALERS



Glan-y-Mor farm is made up of 1500 acres, mostly of salt marsh and sand dunes near Harlech on the North Wales coast. The majority of the land is sand which often burns off in dry spells, all the cattle are wintered out.

I Mathew Jones, farm alongside my father, Alun who keeps around 140 pedigree cows under the Glan-y-Mor prefix, while 3 years ago I started my own herd under the Dragon prefix. Alongside the cattle there is a small flock of pedigree Beltex and Blue Texel sheep.

The first Salers bull was purchased at Castle Douglas sale in 1999 after having difficulty calving the welsh black and Limousin cross cows. We have not looked back since, most years we don't need to assist any of the cows at calving. Most of the steers are sold through the store market with the pedigree heifers retained to replace the commercial cow. We are hoping to sell the females as bulling heifers in the coming years.

In 2017 I made a visit to the Cantal region of France, where I purchased the first foundation cow for the Dragon herd, Indiana Poll, having won the Interbreed championship at Simagena Paris show in 2015 for her breeder Gaec de Solignac. Indiana then went on to be Overall champion at the RWAS in 2017. Further foundation cows, Ferrari, Judy and Indonesie were purchased from the same breeder, and 2 cows purchased from Earl Croix mahieu in Normandy named Daniela and Girafe. Another 13 yearling heifers were imported through Elite Export last autumn.

The main attributes when trying to breed Salers cattle for me are muscling with plenty of milk, a large frame, open pelvis, tidy udder and teats with good legs and hooves. Dark colour, grey hair and a broad nose are also desirable.

I'm interested to develop the polled lines in my herd, the current stock bull is homozygous polled Rigel Khaki which is shared with the Glan-y-Mor herd.





Indiana Poll



khaki



Daniela



Girafe





## CORRESPONDENCE

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### VAT REG NO:

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**H & H SPRING SALE**  
**15 MAY 2021**

Entries are open  
N.B. This is not an  
Official Society Sale.

## MERCHANDISE

- 🔴 Air fresheners £2.50 plus P&P
- 🔴 Society ties £15.00 plus P&P
- 🔴 Society pin badges £3.50 plus P&P

Email: [secretary@salers.uk](mailto:secretary@salers.uk)


Tel: 07903 626249



## SOCIETY SEMEN FOR SALE

Whether you are choosing your next herd sire or selecting semen to put across particular dams this is an important decision and shouldn't be rushed. Every option should be explored and whilst doing this do not forget the Society has semen for sale from Vanlooy and from Ugolin. Both are stored at: UK Sire Services Ltd. Please contact the Society office for further details: 07903 626249 or email: [secretary@salers.uk](mailto:secretary@salers.uk)


07  
Jan



📅 January 7, 2020

SOCIETY SEMEN FOR SALE  
UGOLIN

04  
Jan



📅 January 4, 2020

SOCIETY SEMEN FOR SALE  
VANLOOY