World Galloway Conference

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Association Reports

INDEX

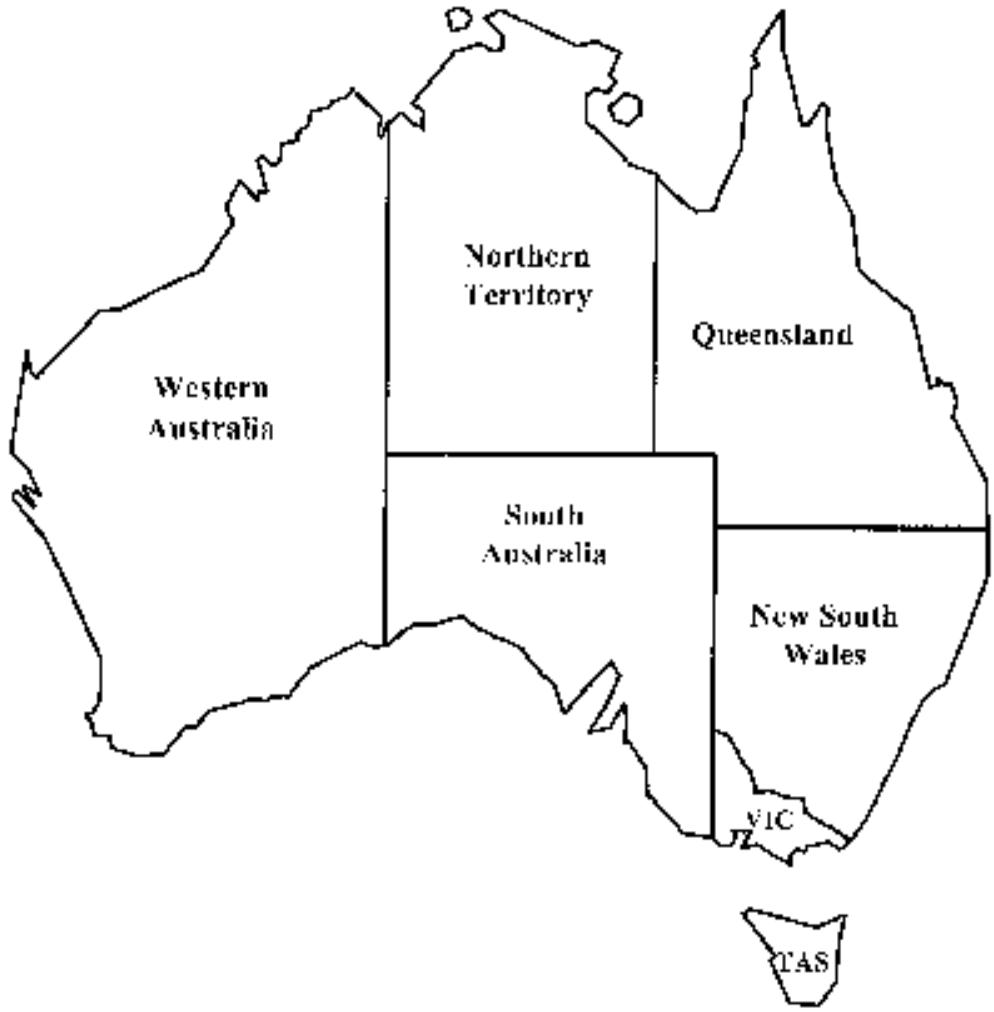
THE GALLOWAY CATTLE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC

A REPORT ON GALLOWAYS IN AUSTRALIA AND THE AUSTRALIAN BEEF INDUSTRY

PREPARED FOR THE

INTERNATIONAL GALLOWAY CONGRESS CALGARY, CANADA ON 9-13 JULY 1997

By Peter R McKeon and Merlin C Bradley



The Australian Beef Industry

Industry Description

Beef cattle are produced across Australia on properties with a diversity of enterprises.

Specialist beef producers carried around 60 per cent of Australia's beef cattle in 1994-95, while nonspecialist beef properties carried 26 per cent.

Trends in Beef Cattle Numbers

The Australian Bureau of Statistics estimated that there were 23.6 million beef cattle in Australia at the end of March 1996 (ABARE 1996b) - an increase of

around 0.6 million from the previous year. A further 2.9 million cattle of dairy breeds took the total number of cattle in Australia to 26.5 million. The March 1997 survey shows a further reduction in beef cattle numbers by approximately 225,000, while dairy cattle numbers increased by approximately 120,000.

The current beef cattle herd contrasts with a herd of 14.0 million in 1965. Beef cattle numbers increased to a peak of 29.8 million in 1976 before declining to a low of around 19.4 million in 1984.

Relatively favourable prices for beef meant that the buildup in the beef herd continued in 1993-94. However, the uptrend was halted by the spread of the drought in Queensland to the other eastern states in 1994-95.

Beef prices fell sharply in the first half of 1996, although saleyard prices had increased by mid-1996 in response to higher export returns from the Japanese market and lower cattle yardings, particularly in Queensland.

Location of Specialist Beef Producers

The nature of beef cattle production differs widely both among and within states. Production is generally more intensive in the higher rainfall regions of the southern states, with the number of cattle carried per hectare being much higher than in northern Australia.

Approximately 35 per cent of specialist beef producers were located in Queensland. A further 27 per cent were in New South Wales and Victoria, with 5 per cent in Western Australia and 6 per cent in the other states.

On average, specialist beef properties in northern Australia are much larger in terms of cattle numbers than those in the southern states. For example, the 35 per cent of specialist beef properties located in Queensland accounted for around 51 per cent of Australia's total specialist beef herd.

The larger average herd size in the north reflects the region's relatively high proportion of larger properties in terms of area and the more extensive nature of its beef production. For example, the majority of properties with more than 300 cattle are in northern Australia. Around 50 per cent of specialist beef properties carried less than 300 cattle, accounting for only 12 per cent of all cattle on specialist beef properties. 40 percent of these small specialist beef properties were located in Victoria, with 28 per cent in New South Wales and 23 per cent in Queensland. The remainder were distributed evenly between Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania.

Breed Composition

A supplementary survey on the breed composition of the beef herd was

included as part of the 1990 and 1994 survey programs. A summary of the results (table 1) of these surveys are provided in this section.

Table I ***Composition of the beef herd on broadacre farms*** **(a)**

	Number '000		Proportion %
Hereford	4,881	(11)	23.9
Angus	1,348	(19)	6.6
Shorthorn	706	(17)	3.5
Murray Grey	222	(24)	1.1
Other British breed	86	(37)	0.4
European breed	390	(50)	1.9
Brahman	3,642	(16)	17.8
Santa Gertrudis	642	(48)	3.1
Other tropical breed	566	(22)	2.8
British breed cross	1,884	(11)	9.2
British x European	923	(14)	4.5
Bos indicus x Bos taurus	3,869	(14)	19.0
Other types	1,254	(17)	6.1
Australia	20,413	(6)	100.0

(a) At 30 June 1994.
Note: Figures in parentheses are relative standard errors, expressed as percentages. The 'proportion' column does not add to 100 due to rounding.
Source: Ashton, Rudwick, Martin and Reynolds (1995).

Environment factors and changing markets are reshaping the cattle industry in Australia, changing it from the original composition based on British breeds, particularly the Hereford and Shorthorn. The current breed composition of the beef herd differs regionally according to management system and climate: British and European breeds predominate in the southern parts of Australia, while tropical breeds are important in northern Australia. In the last few years Angus and Angus Cross cattle have increased dramatically due to strong local and international demand for better carcase composition, especially in relation

to marbling.

British breed cattle accounted for over 35 per cent of beef cattle in Australia, with Herefords alone accounting for nearly 24 per cent of the beef herd. Angus cattle were the second most common of the British breeds in Australia.

Brahman and Santa Gertrudis cattle were the most common of the tropical breeds, accounting for 18 per cent and 3 per cent respectively of the national beef herd.

Crossbred cattle represented almost a third of the national beef herd, with the most common types being *Bos indicus x Bos taurus* crosses. These crossbred types have been popular because of the benefits of hybrid vigour and because of the introduction of desirable tropical breed traits to British and European breed cattle.

Galloway cattle comprise a very small share of the Australian beef industry. They are numerically stronger in the south-east comer where climatic conditions are more to their liking.

Markets for Australian Beef

The Australian beef industry and its markets have undergone major developments and changes in recent years. The domestic market still remains the largest single market for Australian beef producers, using around 56 per cent of beef production. However, an increasing amount of revenue is being generated through the supply of beef to overseas markets.

Australia's beef export markets have traditionally been dominated by two major importing countries - Japan and the United States. Other notable purchasers of Australian beef include Canada, South Korea and Taiwan. The remaining portion of exports is comprised of several smaller importing nations in Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

Response of the Beef Industry

Beef production in Australia has altered in response to the increased demand for beef in Asian markets. Australian production previously was predominantly based on grassfed, free range cattle which produced lean beef for both Australian consumers and the US fast food (hamburger) market. In recent years, the emphasis has shifted to intensive livestock production to produce 'marbled' beef (beef with a higher fat content) to suit the demands of Asian consumers.

Market Prospects in 1996-97

Continuing high beef production in the United State is expected to be the main

influence on Australian Cattle saleyard prices in 1996-97. Liquidation of the US beef herd commenced in the first half of 1996 as producers responded to high feedgrain prices and dry pasture conditions in the main cattle grazing areas. High grain prices and the associated lower feeder cattle prices reduced the profits of cow-calf operations, leading to increased slaughterings.

Growth in Live Cattle Exports

The strong growth in Australia's live cattle exports over the past five years is likely to continue as feedlots in the main buyer countries expand. Cattle shipped in the March quarter 1996 totalled 141,800 - an increase of 57 per cent over shipments in the same period of 1995.

The development of the live cattle export trade is now significant for beef producers in northern Australia.

Beef Feedlot Sector

The number and capacity of feedlots in Australia has substantially increased. The major reason for the expansion of lot feeding capacity has been access to Asian markets (particularly Japan), in which there are price premiums for beef or more consistently high quality and with a higher fat content than otherwise available from traditional range fed animals.

History of Galloways in Australia

Galloway Cattle were in evidence in Australia long before the first officially recorded importations were introduced from Scotland in 1951. At the Port Phillip Farmers Society Show which was held on their Showgrounds adjoining Melbourne University and fronting Sydney Road, on September 29 1858, cattle exhibited were Shorthorns, Herefords, Devons, Galloways and polled Angus.

The Late Mr H E Kater of "Swatchfield" Oberon, NSW landed 12 heifers and a bull and "Wirrialpa" Pastoral Co of Hemani, NSW, imported six heifers and two bulls during the early fifties. Three heifers and one bull in the last mentioned herd were dun in colour. In March 1951, the Galloway Cattle Society of Australia was inaugurated with Mr H A Kater as President, a position he carried on for over a decade.

Cattle from these two herds were shown at Sydney Royal Show and some country shows over the next few years, but otherwise the two breeders concerned were involved with the painfully slow process of building up

numbers from a small beginning.

The Garnock family from "Bukalong" Bombala, NSW imported a Galloway herd consisting of five heifers and a bull in 1955.

A small importation by, Mr C J Willis, "Starvation Nob" Lietinna, Tasmania followed some years later.

The first stud in Victoria was founded by Mr H T Cock, 'Amberley Park", Lower Plenty using "Bukalong" and "Swatchfield" stock.

At the time of the importation ban on ruminates from the UK, imposed by the Australian Government in 1958 to safeguard against blue tongue disease, there were approximately 100 breeding females in Australia. Due to the strict pure bred breeding programme (no up grading being permitted) the increase in their numbers was slow. However, the established herds were carried on faithfully and a number of new herds commenced up to and including 1968.

After 1969 Northern (New South Wales) and Southern (Victoria and Tasmania) Branches of the Galloway Cattle Society of Australia were formed.

With the lifting of importation bans in 1969 the pioneer breeders were quick to react. Importations came into Australia from NZ in a steady flow, introducing cattle with bloodlines equal to the best in the world. Large numbers of cattle have been imported from New Zealand, including the entire herd from the famous "Fork Farm" Stud.

It was not until 1971 that the attributes of the Galloway carcase were brought to the attention of beef breeders throughout Australia by winning first prize on the hook in the 12-15 months Pure Bred Led Steer class. It was the first Galloway ever exhibited in the pure bred section of the Royal Melbourne Show. The Steer cut out 250kg from 395kg live weight. Then in 1972 three Galloways were entered in the pure bred fat cattle classes in a field of 88, one winning Champion steer under 12 months.

The selection of top UK Bulls to supply semen to Australian studmen for artificial insemination programmes expanded the blood lines of the breed in Australia.

Many current Australian studs have imported selected blood lines to ensure the future of the Galloway breed. The first consignment of imported bulls since 1956, brought in through the Cocos (Keeling) Island Quarantine Station included two Galloways from the Globe herd in Canada.

History of Belted Galloways

in Australia

Registered Belted Galloways were introduced into Australia from New Zealand in 1973. The New Zealand Society was formed in 1948 following imports from the United Kingdom in 1947. This was the basis of the New Zealand herd with further imports from the United Kingdom over the next few years.

According to New Zealand records the first registered Belted Galloways were imported to Australia in 1973 by Sir Reginald Reed of the Mt Wayo stud in NSW who brought three bulls and six females from New Zealand. During the next eight years some fifty head of registered cattle were brought to Australia.

Prior to the complete ban of imported cattle into Australia in 1957 some Belted Galloway cattle were imported into Australia by Mr Blackwell of Echuca and Mr Crowe of Scone. These cattle flourished and spread all over Australia but according to New Zealand records there were no imports of registered cattle prior to 1973.

In 1976 a decision was made to include Belted Galloways in the Herd Book of the Galloway Cattle Society of Australia as a number of "Belted" enthusiasts had imported cattle from New Zealand and were establishing herds. In 1978 the Galloway Cattle Society of Australia started recording Registered Belted Galloways in a separate section of it's herd book. At that time it was decided to permit the grading up of Belted Galloways from the mating of pure bred Belted Galloway bulls to pure bred black or dun Galloway females.

An appendix was started for Belted Galloways bred up with registered Belted Galloways over registered Black or Dun Galloways.

Belted Galloways now form an important part of our Society. These spectacular animals are generally shown separately from their Galloway cousins, however, we all have the same objective in the Australian Beef Industry.

White Galloways

White Galloways have been registered with our Society since 1990. At that time, they were registered in Section 2 of our Herd Book and there has been no prejudice in our treatment of this colour pattern. They were deemed to be pure bred with no distinction from Solid Coloured or Belted Galloways who were also described as pure bred at that point in time.

Following the introduction by our Society of an upgrading system, all original pure bred cattle are now described as fullbloods while graded-up cattle with purity of 93.75% or more are described as purebred which is in accordance

with Australian Beef Industry standard terminology and general usage by a considerable number of other breed Societies in this country.

In Australia, the Black, Dun or Red progeny from White Galloways in Australia are uniquely identified by a CET number and ancestral code. These animals will be classified as White Galloways, but with Black, Dun or Red colour markings. They will be eligible for Shows and Society sponsored Sales. Their progeny will be permanently identified by an ancestral code as being from White Galloway parents.

White progeny from these Black, Dun or Red Galloways will be classified as fullblood White Galloways. The Black, Dun or Red Galloways from the progeny of White Galloways are not (and will not) be classified as fullblood Black, Dun or Red Galloways. The unique CET identification system used by the Society will permanently identify future generations of cattle from White Galloways. We will be able to look at a pedigree certificate and immediately determine if a given animal had any White Galloway genetics (or Red or other colour genes) in it's ancestry.

Australian Miniature Galloways

In 1997, Federal Council introduced rules to allow the Society to register Miniature Galloways. These animals share the same rules for registration as Galloways, with the exception that they must comply to strict height regulations and not be deformed in any manner.

The main regulations are:

Males under 100cm in height at 12 months and 120cm at 24 months.

Females under 95cm in height at 12 months and 105cm at 24 months.

Will have (MIN) placed after their name. They will be removed from the Miniature Galloway classification if they grow so as not to qualify to the height restrictions.

The Society

The Galloway Cattle Society of Australia was formed at Sydney on 8 March 1951 by the importers of the first cattle to this country. The first President was Mr H E Kater of "Swachfield", Oberon, New South Wales.

The Society became incorporated under the Associations Incorporations Act of New South Wales on the 4 February 1988. The purpose of incorporation was to provide members with protection under the Act for public liability and other statutory matters.

In January 1992, the Society appointed Mrs Jill Craig as Executive Officer and Mr Peter Sutherland as Field Officer. These were a part time positions. The duties and responsibilities of an Executive Officer are detailed on the attached schedule while the need for a Field Officer has been terminated due to the current economic downturn in the beef industry.

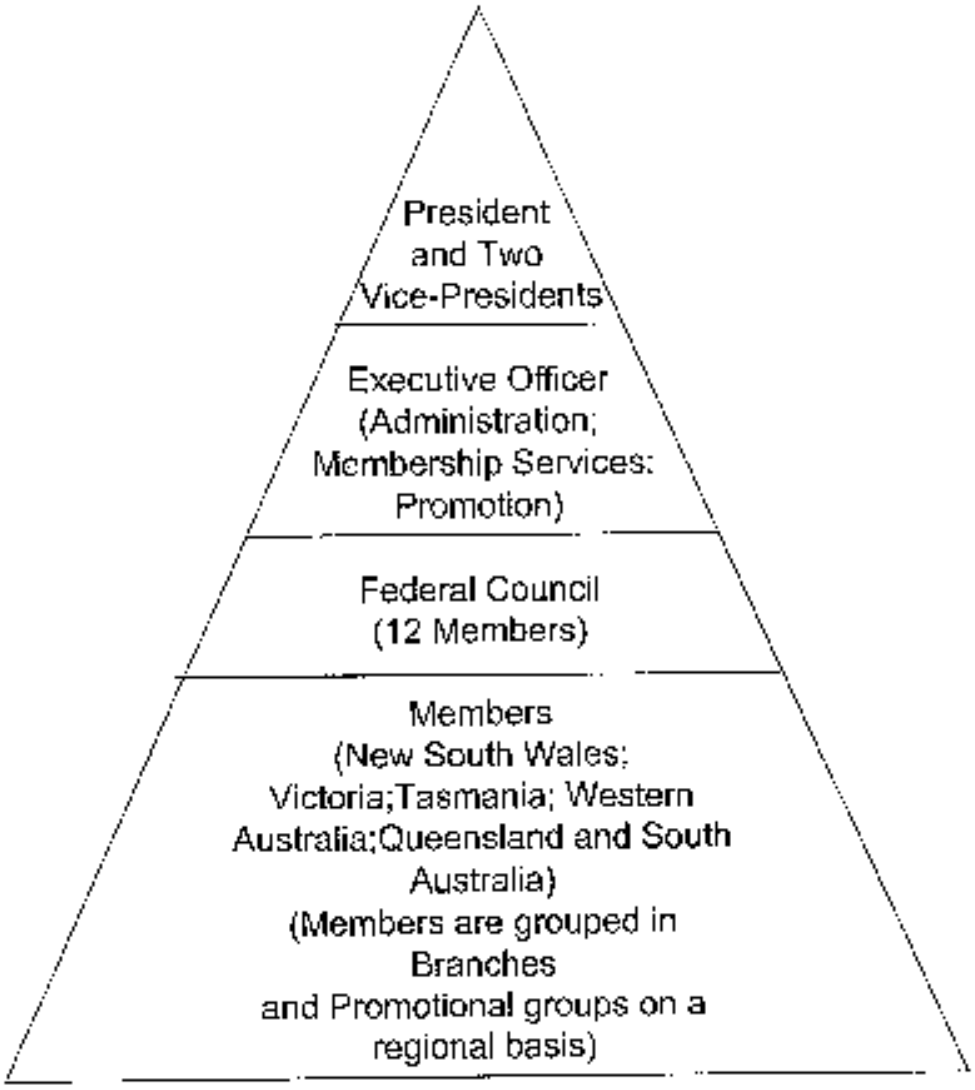
The current structure of our Society is that we have members throughout New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, Western Australia, Queensland and South Australia. Members in these areas are grouped into Branches or Promotional Groups on a regional or needs basis. Originally, the Branches were the main form of operations in these areas, however, as the Society and the membership expands it has been necessary to have a more flexible approach and therefore the Promotional Groups which can be more localised, now have more appeal. These local branches or Promotional Groups are supported by the Federal Society with promotional material, handouts, brochures, photographs and media releases etc to assist them in their local endeavours to promote Galloways and Galloway beef.

Each year the Society holds an Annual General Meeting at which Federal Councillors are elected. The current Constitution provides for 12 Councillors of whom 4 retire each year on a rotational basis. Therefore, members at each Annual General Meeting elect 4 Councillors to Federal Council.

Federal Council is entrusted with the responsibility of administrating and running the Society. They are the prime body responsible for making rules and regulations and supervision of the day to day administration requirements of the Society.

Following election of Federal Councillors, the members elect the Executive which comprises President, two Vice Presidents and the Treasurer. All other positions of responsibility are nominated by Federal Council on a needs basis.

The Galloway Cattle Society of Australia, Inc. Structure



Executive Officer Duties & Responsibilities

Administration

- **Memberships**
- **Levy's**
- **Registrations**
- **Transfers**
- **Banking**
- **Debtors/creditors**

Membership Services

- **New members**
- **Existing members**
  - **Cattle enquiries:**

- Transfers
- Levys
- Registrations

• Meetings/minutes
• Day to day matters/enquiries

Promotion

• Galloway Annual/Newsletters
• Brochures/leaflets/flyers/photos etc
• Media liaison/articles, etc
• Shows/field days/grazing trials, etc
• Banners/photos/promotional material
• Show/sale enquiries

Revenue Collection System

The Society collects its revenue by a number of means. The first of these traditional revenue measures is:

• Membership fees from stud and commercial members
• Registration fees for all calves requiring registration papers
• Transfer fees paid on animals sold

Secondly, the Society collects a substantial proportion of its annual income from an annual levy which is levied on each fullblood and purebred female in each member's herd over 24 months of age. This annual levy is rendered at the beginning at the financial year and provides the Society with income so that it can budget operating and administration expenses, executive salary and promotional programs.

As with all business matters within a Society, the collection of revenue and the tight control of expenses is absolutely vital to ensure the Society can expand and develop the Breed throughout Australia.

Statistics

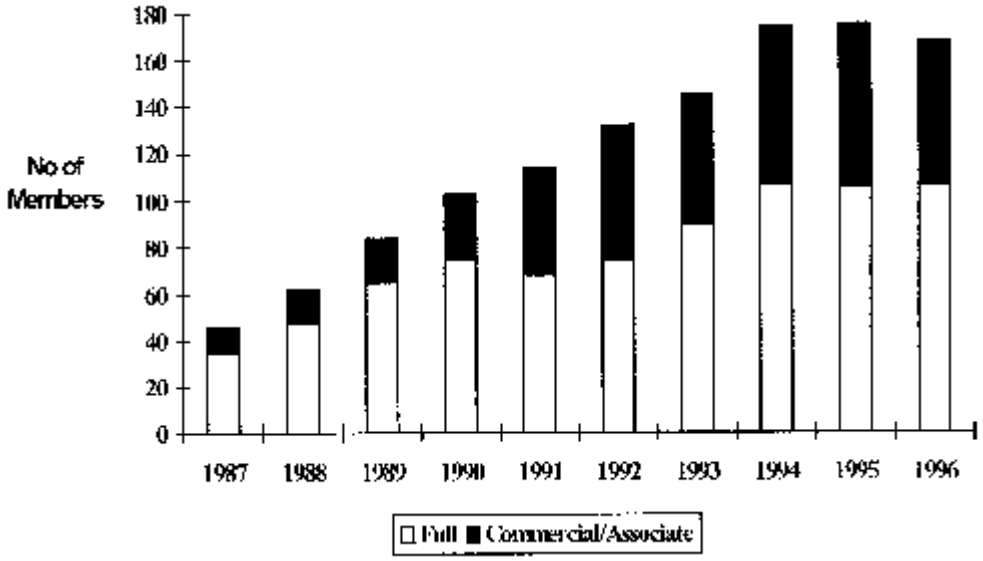
Some of the key indicators of the success of our Society is the number of members the number of active females on our inventory and the number of calves registered each year.

Attached are two schedules which show a steady growth in membership over the last decade and also growth in the number of cows listed on our inventory and the number of calves registered each year.

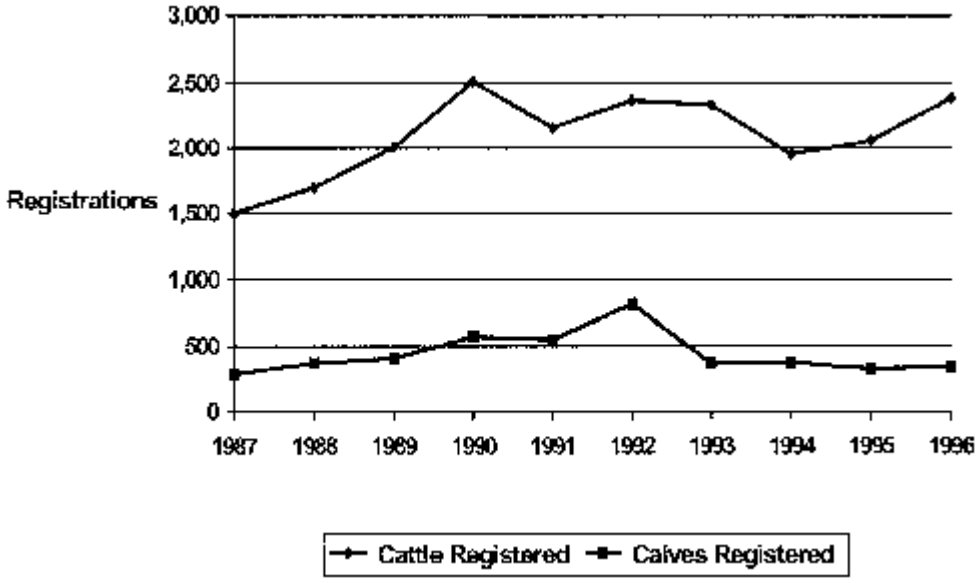
Recently, Federal Council has changed our fee structure to encourage members to register more calves each year to fill a growing demand for stud cattle. It is anticipated that this restructuring of our fees and also the end of the drought which has been present throughout eastern Australia in 1993/1994/1995 will start to show a dramatic increase in the number ofcalves

registered for stud purposes each year.

Membership 1987-1996



Registrations 1987-1996



A Strategy for the Future

Currently, Federal Council is working on the compilation of a Strategic Plan for our Society.

To date, we have formulated our "Mission Statement", details of our objectives and discerned the needs of our Members and their clients.

It is anticipated that this "Strategic Plan" will be finalised by the end of this year. It should provide valuable guidance to our future directions.

MISSION STATEMENT

To achieve a dynamic and successful society that concentrates its resources around a unified plan and consistently meets the needs of its members and their clients.

Objectives

The Society and its Future

1. Increase the Society's membership base.

- **Seedstock**
- **Commercial**

2. Increase the numbers of Galloway and Galloway cross cattle in the industry.

- **Seedstock (inventory)**
- **Commercial**

3. Ensure resources are adequate to meet the present and future needs of the Society.

- **Financial resources**
- **Human resources**
- **Information resources**

4. To conduct the affairs of Society according to professional standards.

Information Flow

1. Increase the two way flow of information between Council and Members.

- Document Council decisions and adequately communicate these to Members
- Encourage Members to respond to Council regarding all facets of the Society

2. Create an environment in which Members feel optimistic about the future of the Society and of the Galloway breed.
   - Climate of mutual interest
   - Codes of behaviour

The Needs of Members and their Clients

1. Product development.

   - Demonstrate the attributes of Australian Galloway Cattle
   - Provide an appropriate product for the Australian and International Beef Industries
   - Quality assurance

2. Market development.
   - Enhance market penetration of Galloway and Galloway influenced cattle
   - Advertising
   - Industry alliances

3. Provide a facility to improve the Galloway breed.
   - Society sponsored Performance Recording
   - Cooperative research ventures
   - Education
   - Literature

4. Facilitate alliances with other breed societies.
   - Galloway
   - Non Galloway

5. Satisfy the human needs of all participants.
   - Social
   - A feeling of belonging
   - A sense of the usefulness of their efforts

Registration & Recording System

Following many years of debate and deliberations. Federal Council of our Society decided that it was an appropriate time to revise our Rules and Regulations in respect of the way that Galloway and Belted Galloway cattle were registered with the Society.

This revision of the Registration System was considered necessary to provide

a simple, flexible and efficient method of registering and identifying all Galloways and Belted Galloway cattle. It was also felt that the Registration classification system should be consistent with accepted standards of the Australian beef industry whilst at the same time remain as compatible as possible with the Registration Systems of overseas Galloway and Belted Galloway cattle Societies.

In conjunction with the Agricultural Bureau Research Institute (ABRI) based at Armidale in New South Wales, a highly workable scheme has been devised that will accommodate the needs of all members. The new Registration System encompasses the following important features:

- **The Registration System will detail all relevant registration information relating to Galloways and Belted Galloways.**

- **Full Blood animals will be those that can have their ancestry adequately documented through the existing Registration System or an animal registered in an overseas Registration System that is deemed suitable by Federal Council. These animals will be permanently identified.**

- **Upgrading to Pure (93.75%) status will be permitted. These animals will be permanently identified by the letter "P", and all subsequent progeny will also be similarly identified.**

- **A separate record (outside the Registration System) will maintain details of animals during the upgrading programme (recorded as opposed to registered).**

- **During an upgrading program it is proposed that members can use any base breed of either sex but Council strongly recommends solid coloured polled breeds. The base breed is to be identified on the recording certificate.**

- **Because of Council's commitment to protecting the desirable characteristics of Galloway and Belted Galloway * cattle, NO animal will enter the Registration System unless it is:**

    (i) Polled
    (ii) Has adequate documentation of ancestry
    (iii) Documented Mannosidosis free
    (iv) True to breed type

The Society will have the power to inspect animals prior to entry into the Registration System.

***** ***There is a possibility that due to the problems of having properly marked***

Belted Galloways that the base breed for grading up may be restricted to only registered Galloways or solid coloured, polled Bos Taurus breeds

Ancestral Codes

Our new registration system identifies the background breeding of an animal that will appear on all new pedigree certificates.

For example - a black Galloway animal may have RED as its ancestral code. This means there is red colour in the background pedigree of the animal.

All 12,000 animals ever listed on the system have been allocated an ancestral code, and from now on the computer system will automatically decide an animal's ancestral code.

The following are the ancestral codes and their meaning:

Fullblood Galloways

GAL present Fullblood (solid Galloways)
GAL-RED present Fullblood (solid Galloways) with Red in pedigree
WHT present Fullblood with White in pedigree
WHT-RED present Fullblood with White and Red in pedigree
BLT present Fullblood Belted Galloways
BLT-RED present Fullblood Belted with Red in pedigree

% Age or Pure Bred Galloways

BLT-GAL Belted Galloway bred from Fullblood Galloway
BLT-WHT Belted Galloway bred from Fullblood White Galloway
WHT-BLT White Galloway bred from Fullblood Belted Galloway
GAL-BLT Galloway bred from Fullblood Belted Galloway
GAL-GRD Galloway bred from other breeds
WHT-GRD White Galloway bred from other breeds
BLT-GRD Belted Galloway bred from other breeds

The following lists Standard Breed Codes for base animals in a breeding up program from another breed.

% Age or Pure Bred Galloways

BLT-GAL Belted Galloway bred from Fullblood Galloway
BLT-WHT Belted Galloway bred from Fullblood White Galloway
WHT-BLT White Galloway bred from Fullblood Belted Galloway
GAL-WHT Galloway bred from Fullblood White Galloway

GAL-BLT Galloway bred from Fullblood Belted Galloway
GAL-GRD Galloway bred from other breeds
WHT-GRD White Galloway bred from other breeds
BLT-GRD Belted Galloway bred from other breeds

Galloway Computer Equivalent Tattoo (CET) System

What is a CET?

A Computer Equivalent Tattoo (or CET) replaces the subregister and Herd Book number that currently identifies a Galloway animal.

The CET is made up of the breeder tattoo of 3 characters (which is the current herd code), a year letter (which identifies the animal's year of birth) and the animal's tattoo. This means that the member identification, the animal's year of birth and the animal's tattoo are the only pieces of information that are needed to identify an animal.

Identifying Animals Uniquely

The year letter used to identify the year of birth is a technique used by other breed societies. This allows breeders to tattoo their animals each year starting from I e.g., an animal's tattoo may be SFG P1184, meaning that it was bred by herd SFG in 1994 (year letter P) and was tattooed with number 1184. In fact, the animal should be tattooed with PI 184. To be in line with most other breed societies, the year letters are:

1970P 1971Q 1972R 1973S 1974T 1975U 1976V 1977W 1978X 1979Y 1980Z 1981A 1982B 1983C 1984D 1985E 1986F 1987G 1988H 1989J 1990K 1991L 1992M 1993N 1994P 1995Q 1996R 1997S 1998T 1999U 2000V 2001 W 2002X 2003Y 2004Z

Animals will, from 1996, be tattooed with the breeder's herd code, the year letter and the tattoo number. The tattoo number will be used only once on an animal in a year. That means that a number should NOT be used again even if it is a different grade or colour, a bull or a cow.

Animals Already in the Herd Book

All animals currently in the Herd Book will have their subregister and Herd

Book number converted to the new CET.

Animals can still be identified by the old subregister and Herd Book number. The computer system will still find those animals.

Breedplan

Recently Federal Council of our Society has adopted and recommended BREEDPLAN for our Members. At this stage, the provision of information to enable BREEDPLAN figures to be produced is not compulsory, however, this may be an option in the medium to long term if Galloway cattle are to remain competitive with other breeds in the Australian Beef Industry.

What is BREEDPLAN?

BREEDPLAN is a modern genetic evaluation system for beef cattle. If offers serious breeders the potential to accelerate the rate of genetic improvement in their herds, tighten up their breeding operations, improve productivity and increase sale prices of cattle sold for both breeding and slaughter.

What Is Analysed?

BREEDPLAN will analyse the performance of cattle within your herd for a range of traits, including:

1. **Birth Weight**
2. **200-day Growth**
3. **200-day Milk (maternal effect)**
4. **400-day Weight**
5. **600-day Weight**

and the following new traits are soon to be added:

6. **Fat Depth**
7. **Eye Muscle Area**
8. **Scrotal Size**
9. **Gestation Period**

These traits cover economically important aspects of performance such as calving ease, growth, maternal ability, carcase yield and fertility. However, the system is flexible and breeders can select their own level of recording.

BREEDPLAN EBVs

BREEDPLAN uses information from the performance of the individual calf and

all its known relatives to make predictions of genetic merit. These predictions are called Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs). They are made using the Best Linear Unbiased Prediction (BLUP) technique. EBVs are more accurate than conventional indices of cattle performance (such as weight ratios) which is why their use in selection allows genetic progress to be greatly accelerated.

Separating 'Genetics' From 'Environment'

BREEDPLAN makes genetic selection a lot more straight forward by separating performance into 'Genetic' and 'Environment' components. This means that you can compare all the cattle in your herd against a standard genetic base with environmental influences removed. The trend in genetic improvement for the various traits is printed out by BREEDPLAN. You can convert this into a diagram using BREEDPLAN Graphics if you wish to see how effective your selection decisions have been over time. Environmental influences on various traits are reported separately in BREEDPLAN. This means that you can identify the seasonal influences on your herd's performance and the long term effect of practices such as pasture improvement.

National Genetic Evaluation

Once a Member has begun recording with BREEDPLAN, his herd will become eligible for inclusion in the National Genetic Evaluation Report of the Galloway breed provided there are common "link" sires. These sires create genetic linkages between the Member's herd and those of other breeders. Valid genetic comparisons between all the recorded animals in those herds can then be made.

The GROUP BREEDPLAN EBVs in this analysis and the accompanying Herd Report will allow Members and commercial cattle breeders to identify the genetically superior sires and dams for Galloways on a National basis.

This information will greatly assist you with questions such as *"where do I go to find a bull that will really improve my herd genetically"?* Of course, if your cattle come up as "trait leaders" for the breed, the enquiry level and value of your herd will be, hopefully, greatly enhanced.

The Future for Galloways in Australia

We need to identify animals with traits desired by the customer. In other meats industries breed is less important than these traits (chicken, pork). If Galloways are used it will be because the animals have these desired traits

and can be identified. If they are not identified, Galloways will not be used on a breed reference, and even our cattle with the proper qualifications, will be left out of the selection process.

It is hoped that the use of BREEDPLAN as a tool to monitor and improve the genetic performance of Galloways will give our Society the impetus to compare our cattle with the best of other breeds.

It is up to the members of our Society, who are not only responsible for preservation of the Galloway breed, (but also responsible for the promotion and breeding of the correct type of cattle) to comply with current consumer demands.

Some Current Facts

Saleyard price of 450kg steers prime condition $1.05 -$1.12 per kilo live weight

	Supermarket Price	Butcher's Price
Price of rump steak	$12.49 per kilo	$12.00 per kilo
Price of mince steak	$ 5.99 per kilo	$ 7.99 per kilo
Price of fillet steak	$20.99 per kilo	$19.00 per kilo

Reference:
**** Coles Supermarket, Turramurra (Sydney suburb)-Il June 1997***
**** Turramurra Butchery (Sydney suburb) - Il June 1997***

The Swiss Galloway Society

B. von Fischer
Presented at Calgary by Ole Grubbe

The Swiss Galloway Society was founded in January 1996. The first group of black Galloways consisting of three animals was imported to Switzerland by one of the founding members only in May 1994. Around that time the Swiss Ministery of Agriculture had finally changed the import regulations for cattle due to the recent developments of GATT.

The last survey in spring 1997 has shown that the Swiss Galloway Herd Book consists of around 500 heads. Mostly black, but also a fair amount of Dun an Belted Galloways. The white line is, as everywhere our pride, but quite small. Our main import area is Germany, a few animals come from Denmark, Canada and recently also from Austria. We are very sorry that because of the BSE based EU import ban to the continent no animals have been bought directly in Scotland. Nonetheless many breeders have visited the homeland of this sturdy animal with great interest and enthusiasm..

Our Society consists of around 50 members, all pioneers in a country where traditionally other brands like Simmental have been more dominant. It is needless to say, that the Galloways have adapted well to the rough conditions of the Swiss alpine and prealpine climate and are very popular.

We are now starting our marketing strategies with the main emphasize on Quality and Health Meat production. We are certainly aware of the fact, that we will always have but a small segment of the meat production in our country. This is why we set our hopes in the Galloway Gourmet Beef in the near future. We believe that the combination of breeding and selling

meat mostly marketed directly by the individual farmers should provide their existence.

Contact Address in Switzerland :

The Swiss Galloway Society
c/o B. von Fischer
Rufelistrasse 7
CH - 3626 Hunibach
Switzerland
Tel: 41 33 243 44 47
FAX: 41 31 302 23 43

For North America :

The Swiss Galloway Society
c/o R.C. Leffel
6408 Willow Lane
Mission Hills 662308 Kansas USA
Tel: 913 362 9727
FAX: 913 8312413

VISITORS ALLWAYS WELCOME

Friends & Colleagues of the Galloway Breeders of the World

George Sproat

Introduction

It is difficult to review the last ten years of beef production in Britain without mentioning BSE, so it's probably best to do so now and then move on to other aspects of Beef Production in Britain ending up, hopefully, looking at Galloways in particular.

BSE

First identified in Britain in 1986. BSE is probably the most significant thing to affect the cattle industry in the last fifty or so years.

Whilst other epidemics such as foot and mouth or Riderpest may have affected some countries and numbers of cattle involved much more, BSE has had the effect of causing a fall in beef consumption in many parts of the World and certainly affected all the beef producing countries in one way or another. This is a situation which may well take a considerable time to secure even a partial recovery.

Over the past ten years one of the most significant casualties of the outbreak has been the truth, from the moment when one of our National newspapers printed a headline and coined the phrase "MAD COW DISEASE" the media vied with each other in their efforts to come up with more lurid headlines and stories.

It was soon to become an open house for experts and so called experts many of them with completely opposing points of view, preferably the more controversial the better. Scientists, many with theories long since proved inconclusive, some who revelled in the limelight and especially if they prophesied a doomsday scenario were very much in demand. On the fringe the usual people with grievences, either real or imagined, against the Government, the eating of meat, the farming community were soon to find a radio or TV producer ready to give them full rein for their

prejudices.

The British Government, however, did little or nothing positively; like most politicians they talked a good case for bringing in various measures to deal with the epidemic, unfortunately as the full saga unfolded these Acts or Parliament when put in place NO measures were taken to ensure Feed Producers, Slaughter Houses, Farmers complied with them. In fact farmers and the general public were astonished and somewhat stunned to learn in March 1996 that despite the assurances given they really were not worth the paper they had been written on.

It really took the crisis following the announcements made in the House of Commons by the Minister for Health and the Minister of Agriculture in March 1996 which resulted in the considerable drop in Beef consumption throughout Europe and the complete loss of our export market for all things Bovine, to set a zero hour and for maximum efforts to be made to deal with the problem of BSE. It is still the subject of debate if the measures put in place were the right ones.

At this time the number of cases continue to drop each month but as yet there is little indication that the beef industry is on its way to any sort of recovery.

European Union Cattle Numbers

We shall now move on to looking at Beef production in Europe and in Britain.

The latest published figures on European Union Cattle numbers is taken from the census taken at the end of 1995 and published last year. This shows that France has the greatest number at twenty and a half million head, this showed a slight increase from the previous year. Germany comes next with almost sixteen million and Britain is in third place with eleven and a half million, it is only in Britain that the numbers are in decline.

Whilst the overall picture throughout the European Union Community showed cattle numbers virtually unchanged, dairy cow numbers continued to fall but these were offset by increases in beef cow numbers, this is

particularly noticeable In Greece and Spain.

Beef Consumption in the United Kingdom

Looking at beef consumption in Britain over the past forty years shows the following:-

Year	Beef Consumed	Poultry Consumed
	(Kgs. per head adult population)	
1955	21.5	2.9
1965	20.8	7.6
1975	23.6	12.3
1985	19	15.6
1995	15.3	27
1996	12.5	27.9

Over the same period the consumption of lamb has dropped from 11.1 to 6.4 whilst pork has increased from 8.1 to 20.9.

The eating habits of the British people were supplied by around 30,000 Butchers shops in 1955 and by 1996 their numbers had dropped to just over 11,000, obviously the great majority of today's housewives no longer use the traditional butchers shop but buys from the supermarket chains.

At the beginning of 1996 even though the share of beef in the home market had fallen, this market was still worth £4,000 million and accounted for 900,000 tonnes (carcase weight). Of the beef consumed in Britain about 45% was for use in the home, 30% was used as processed beef and 25% was used by the catering trade.

World Consumption of Beef and Veal

The United States tops the demand and consumes around 44.3 kgs. of meat per head in a year. Australia is next at 37.1 kgs. In Europe France consumes around 27.4 kgs. whilst Britain lags well behind at 15.3 kgs.

Beef Exports from Britain - 1995 Figures		
to:	**000 tonnes**	**% of export Market**
France	**79.7**	**32.4**
Italy	**41.7**	**17**
South Africa	**27.1**	**11**
Netherlands	**17.4**	**7.1**
Spain	**6.8**	**2.8**
Denmark	**6.3**	**2.6**
Belgium	**2.9**	**1.2**

Galloways in Britain

First of all if we look at the administration of pedigree Galloways.

> Registrations. Breeders are requested to register their heifer calves within 90 days of their birth (late registrations are permitted but this incurs a penalty to the cost).

The birth of bull calves are required to be notified and the breeder has 18 months in which to register a bull (again late entries are permitted and again this attracts a penalty clause.

Identification of Cattle in Britain

For the past two years all our pedigree Galloways have been identified by the use of the standard European Ear Tag system. This will change slightly in 1998 when all cattle will be required to be double tagged. Pedigree Galloways are no longer required to be tattooed, however breeders may if they wish continue to tattoo animals in addition to the official EU ear marking system. In addition to the records maintained by the Society all cattle in Britain are now recorded on an official

Government data-base and all animals movements require to be notified.

Records Maintained by Society

Calving Records

The Society holds two copies of each pedigree raised on an animal.

All breeders are requested to notify the birth of all calves, including those sired by other breed bulls, the aim of this is to maintain an accurate calving record for all females (around 33% actually comply).

Transfers

Cattle sold at sales held under the auspices of the Galloway Cattle Society are automatically transferred by the Society to their new owners.

The private sale of a pedigree animal should be notified by the vendor and when this is done the animals records will show the detail of the transfer of ownership.

Galloway Breeding Herds and Numbers

It is estimated that there are at least 4000 breeding females in around 150 to 160 pedigree herds in Britain, of course there are at least another thousand or so first class breeding females which are pure Galloway but which are not registered.

Galloways are good crossing animals so there are many first and second crosses also to be found.

Registration of Females over last 9 years, yearly to 31st August

1988	1445
1989	1486
1990	1460
1991	1388
1992	1546
1993	1577
1994	1608
1995	1312
1996	1316

Exports of Galloways

A ban was placed on the importation of breeding stock by the then European Community from 1st March 1990, until that date in the previous ten years from 1980 to 1990 a total of 3659 females and 302 males were exported mostly to Germany.

In the years 87 and 88 the demand was at its greatest with the great majority of cattle on offer at pedigree sales going for export. Dealers from Germany also toured the Galloway producing areas in Britain and purchased animals privately. In 1989 the average price for females at the Castle Douglas Spring sale was £1526 which was a price well in excess of what breeders would have normally known.

This great interest from Europe was to meet the demand from various ecologists and the methods put in place to improve the natural resources of these countries usually be providing funds and grants to plant natural woodlands and the use of animals such as cattle and horses able to look after themselves and utilise and control the fauna and flora in these areas. As a spin off from this surplus cattle were slaughtered and entered the food chain and Galloways were found to have tremendous eating quality and so the demand grew.

The export of all these Galloways whilst obviously good news to breeders also had a down side and this has become more noticeable over the past few years.

Originally Galloway females not used for pedigree breeding were bought for crossing, mainly with the Whitebred Shorthorn to produce the famous Blue-grey cow, an extremely versatile female with good mothering and fleshing qualities who produced quality calves when crossed by any of the continental bulls.

The demand for females for export, often at inflated prices, meant that the commercial breeder could not compete and other sources of breeding stock had to be sought. We often hear today complaints that good Blue-grey cows are no longer available.

Another problem which has manifested itself over the past few years was a demand also from Europe for a small compact animal which suited the "Natural" environment it was used to sustain which has resulted in

females coming forth at recent pedigree sales which are too small to be of interest to either a commercial or pedigree breeder.

Criticism over the quality of the bulls coming forward has also been received, this is undoubtedly the result of so many first class breeding females being sold in the 1980's which has depleted the foundation breeding stock. There is a glimmer of hope here as it was noted at the last pedigree sale that there was a much better show of bulls forward.

In Britain the basic use of a breed such as the Galloway is very much tied in to how land is used and managed. By far the great majority of herds are used on the less favoured areas of moorland and upland. Over the past few years more and more of this land has been taken out of farming and used for afforestation or even the leisure industry. Should this trend continue then the Galloway population is likely to continue to diminish.

It is not easy to see if this will be the case as the loss of hill farms means the loss of small local communities and this opens a completely new debate, which is now exercising the minds of the various interested bodies and is likely to do so for some time to come.

Galloways have also proved to be invaluable in the maintenance of these natural moorlands, the removal of cattle and over grazing by additional numbers of sheep caused problems on Exmoor and badly affected their eco-system and in a very short time the system broke down. Fortunately it was recognised in time and cattle were re-introduced and the problem now appears to be diminishing. Had they consulted people with knowledge of moorland management before getting rid of the cattle the problem would not have existed.

Farmers/breeders in all parts of the World will have to realise that they depend on the consumer and his wishes much more than the consumer depends on them. Although famine is still to be found in some of the poorer countries this is usually caused more by Politicians than Nature.

In Britain the aftermath of the BSE crisis is likely to dominate our beef industry for some considerable time, however, it is inevitable that because of this a more efficient beef producing system will emerge.

Handy Statistics

	Total Cattle (000 head)	
	1994	*1995*
France	20524	20662
Germany	15962	15890
U.K.	11868	11673
Italy	7272	7128
Irish Republic`	6410	6532
Spain	5237	5432
Netherlands	4588	4558
Belgium	3161	3147
Austria	2329	2323
Denmark	2082	2094

The Future

Who would be foolish enough to try to predict the future, far less the future of the Beef industry? We only need to look at the development of science, technology and communication over the past 15 years to realise that progress advances in leaps and bounds.

Increase in World Population

Especially in what is considered as the 3rd World countries the population continues to expand needing more food. Religious and local customs will of course still prevent meat being consumed by some but the demand for medicines and food additives will continue to increase.

As more and more countries become more affluent, this will help raise living standards in many countries and there will continue to be a demand

for meat of the highest quality for the gourmets.

World trade and trade agreements are likely to continue to dominate supply and demand for the Worlds produce. We may well see some of the power at present exercised by the so called Western Nations diminish and move to Central and Eastern Asia.

Cattle Breeding

Scientists are likely to play a more prominent role in genetics, meat and milk production and the like. The ability to clone animals may well remove the need for the very specialist breeders and breeding methods we have witnessed over the past 100 years or so,

Records which have been a cornerstone of all Breed Societies are certainly easier to keep now and are demanded now by most Governments for all cattle kept. Animals have to be identified from birth to eventual disposal and whilst some breeders may still consider this to be an un-neccesary incursion into their farming methods it will be demanded by the consumer.