



**World Galloway
Conference
Milwaukee Wisconsin
2004**

Association Reports

- 3 Australian Galloway Association Report**
- 5 The Galloway Cattle and Beef Marketing Association (Australia)**
- 6 Galloways in Australia**
- 7 The Canadian Scene**
- 8 Danish Report**
- 9 Germany Report**
- 14 Great Britain and Ireland - The Galloway Cattle Society**
- 15 New Zealand Galloway Society**
- 14 American Galloway Breeders Association Report**
- 16 US Belted Galloway Society**
- 17 Gwiss Report**

**AUSTRALIAN GALLOWAY ASSOCIATION INC
REPORT TO THE INTERANTIONAL
GALLOWAY CONFERENCE**

Greeting from Australia. We wish all host members a successful conference and pass on our best wishes to all international members.

The serious drought of the past 18 months is still ongoing in many areas of Eastern Australia. Despite this, cattle prices have remained high which has given many beef producers dilemmas (in some case headaches) as to what decisions they should make. That is do they sell their cattle or do they feed them for another 2, 3 or 4 months to see if the drought will break.

Pedigree cattle breeding in Australia is becoming highly technical and capital intensive. With the introduction of EBV's and now genetic testing for DNA, Tenderness, and Marbling the attributes required by the users of our bulls are being more specifically specified. Testing for other traits especially in relation to the eating quality of meat will certainly follow.

Galloway's have always been renowned for their high quality carcasses and the eating quality of their meat. It is important that if we are to survive in the "commercial world", that we adopt processes and selection techniques to ensure we maintain our advantages in these areas.

The Australian Beef Industry, although no where near the largest in cattle numbers on a world stage, is still the biggest exporter of beef. The National cattle industry was worth \$9.6 billion in 2003, of which more than \$6 billion came from exports. This makes beef one of the major export earners for the Australian economy. To remain competitive on a world stage, our beef production will need to be in front of the rest by being highly efficient, competitively priced and capable of meeting specific market demands.

For years now the economists in Australia have reported the ever decreasing terms of trade for the agricultural sector – and with particular impact on the beef industry. We constantly hear of the increasing costs of production and yet oh so infrequently do we hear about the increasing price of the beef animal.

In an effort to counter the ongoing decreasing terms of trade, the Australian beef industry has increased productivity by 2.1% p.a. over the last 10 years. However, this is much less than the corresponding 3.6% p.a. productivity growth in cropping enterprises, and heaven knows how far away from the growth of some of the really high flying industries. The reality is that this level of growth is required just to maintain *status quo*, let alone increase the profitability of the industry.

These productivity gains have been largely achieved by a long term decline in the number of farms, a corresponding increase in average farm size and a reduction in the size of the farm work force.

Within the beef industry in Australia, this has been enhanced by the intensification of production via feedlots. Since 1990 the number of cattle on feed has increased from 252,000 to 780,000 head at any one time. 25% of all adult cattle are now finished in feedlots, with 60% of these being exported to higher priced markets. At the same time there has been an

increase in cattle on feed for domestic consumption fuelled by MSA and demand for higher meat quality.

The usage of areas of high land value, formerly devoted to grazing livestock, but with potential for greater productivity, has increasingly been transferred to other forms of agricultural production such as dairy, field crops, forestry, wine and horticulture. The reason for this shift is greater profitability.

A survey conducted in the Lower South East region of South Australia in 2002 showed that, in the last 5 years, 100,000 ha of land for livestock production was transferred to these other agricultural pursuits. This represented a 15% reduction in land use for livestock in the area.

There are other areas of Australia showing similar trends. The message is clear – it will be difficult in the future to justify the use of highly productive land in favourable environments to run traditional beef enterprises, and in particular cow/calf production.

However, the demand for beef is not dramatically falling. In fact there are strong indications that world demand will increase, and some are predicting that consumption will double by 2020.

To cope with this increased demand from a dwindling resource, beef production will need to be smarter.

Beef production will need to be increased while at the same time utilising land generally less favourable for animal or alternative production. The industry structure may well need to change to “finish” cattle in more favourable environments whilst breeding them in those more marginal. This already occurs, but it is likely to increase in the future.

The challenge for beef producers in Australia will be to both breed and feed cattle under constraints, while balancing the demand in quantity and improved quality to satisfy the markets downstream. To compete on a world market for low quality beef, given the cost structure of our competitors, will be increasingly difficult.

To raise high quality beef on more marginal land beef producers will have to look to the breeds that can deliver these requirements. This is a great opportunity for the Galloway breed which has the characteristics of producing high quality beef from poorer quality pastures.

One of the major efforts of the Australian Galloway Association Inc over the last twelve months was to conduct a survey of our members and Beef Industry participants (Breeders/Processors etc). The information received was very valuable and hopefully will enable us to address perceived weaknesses of Galloways and identified strengths of Galloways by targeted marketing.

It is the Australian Galloway Association's recommendation that all Galloway and Belted Galloway Associations throughout the World conduct similar surveys and that the results be tabulated and a paper published that may be beneficial to all Galloway groups.

We look forward a positive and successful conference and to the continuing collaboration with World Galloway and Belted Galloway Associations at this and future conferences.



THE GALLOWAY CATTLE & BEEF MARKETING ASSOCIATION INC.

AUSTRALIA

The focus of our Association is to ensure that the genetics of the ancient Galloway breed are conserved in a genuine way whilst at the same time maintaining a dynamic and progressive approach to meeting the needs of the modern beef industry. Our name mirrors the three key elements of our operations:

Galloway Cattle - the maintenance of quality straight-bred Galloway, Belted Galloway and White Galloway seed-stock, successor breeds, and to foster performance measurement and recording

Beef Marketing - to promote Galloway beef and to develop group marketing strategies

Association - to encourage collaboration and shared learning, and to provide quality systems for administration.

Our membership base continues to be strong and this, of course, is very encouraging as our goal is to foster continued growth through demonstrable results of our activities.

Today we are seeing sophistication in the beef industry, new technologies and innovation driving competitive advantage: still the excellence of the ancient Galloway breed shows through with Galloways winning carcass competitions and taste tests. Our breed's success in competition is out of all proportion to their modest numbers.

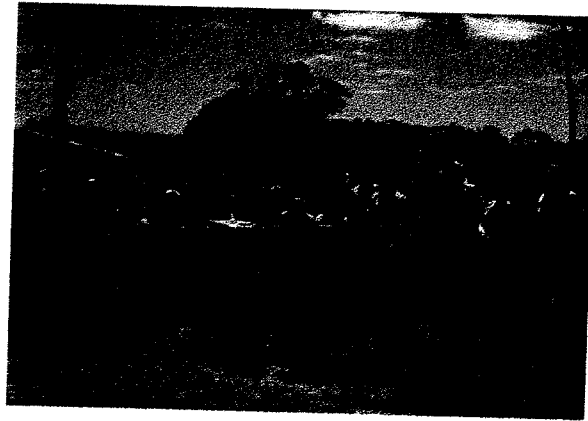
We recognise that Galloway breeders will have a variety of marketing needs, for feeder cattle, grass-fed finished cattle, culls, stud animals and herd bulls. Members collaborate to explore, systematically and imaginatively, the best avenues for improved returns from any markets in which they are involved.

The crippling drought in Australia continues with many farming communities now in their third year. Sadly cattle numbers have declined across Australia; this is also reflected within our Association. We look forward to 2005 bringing improved conditions to assist in the task of rebuilding the herd numbers.

Warm regards to Galloway breeders throughout the world. We welcome enquiries and visits from like-minded breeders – the kettle is always on the boil,

Lawrie Lee
President

email: leawarra@tpg.com.au



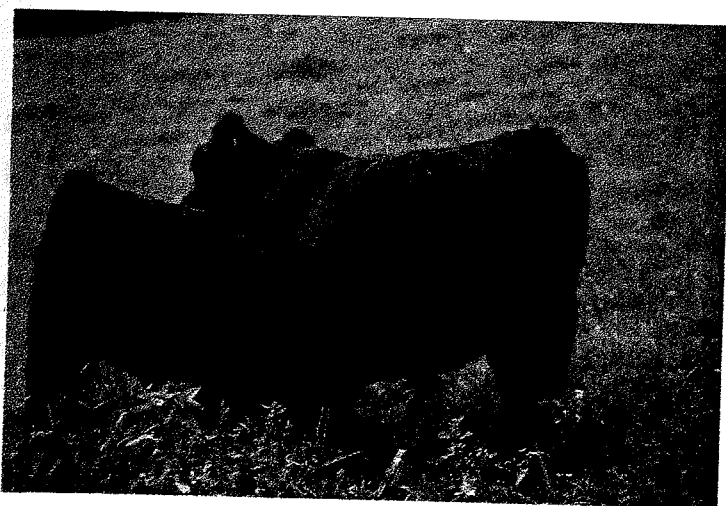
Galloways in Austria

Organic gets more and more important - in Austria and the European Union – and what does fit better into the idea of a healthy life than Galloways!

Most of the Austrian Galloway breeders are organic farmers (12.% of all Austrian farmers are working organic!). The difference in price between organic beef and conventional beef at the slaughter houses gets bigger and bigger – at the moment it is about 15%-20%. A lot of Galloway breeders sell their beef direct to the customers, and especially in the combination with being organic, they are very successful. And if the market for beef is good, farmers are also interested in buying good performing females.

If there is some new information about results and experiences concerning the healthiness and quality of Galloway beef, please let us know!

In May 2004 we got a lot of new members in the European Union, and the interest in beef cattle is very big. In Austria we have got the first concrete inquiries for Galloways from Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary. Now it is time, to show our new neighbours, what great job our Galloways are able to do!



In September 2003 the 4th National Beef Cattle Show took place, there were about 20 head of Galloways shown, the champions were:

Grand Champion Bull
Reserve Champion Bull

BOA Enterprise (Sandhills Enterprise x Diamond B Hilda 33X)
Diamond B Edge 2E (Diamond B Zeno 37Z x Diamond B Starla)

Grand Champion Female
Reserve Champion Female

BOA Instinct with bull calf (Best of Canada x BOA Cindarella)
BOA Mandy with bull calf (Glenfiddich Finance Plus x BOA Mandy)

We are wishing everybody a good time at the Conference, the shows and good luck with the cattle!

Daniela Wintereder
Austrian Galloway Association

THE CANADIAN SCENE

Since Muster Down Under, the biggest event in Canada was the B.S.E. case in May 2003. As countries that have already experienced this know, borders close quickly and re-open very slowly. To the credit of the Canadian public, red meat consumption increased during 2003 and continues to hold it's own in 2004. By late 2003, we were starting to regain some market access in shipments of boneless beef from animals under 30 months of age. One lesson learned from this has been that we had become to dependent on the U.S.A. as a market and a source of meat product manufacturing. It is serving as a wake-up call to other industries as similar trade actions could affect them also.

Members of the Canadian Galloway Association have registered 6% more animals in the first 8 months of 2004 compared to the same time in 2003. Other breed associations have not fared as well. In Alberta, Canadian Caltic Cattle Co. has started carrying Galloway beef. Marketing being carried out by Community Foods is putting Galloway beef into 2 (soon to be 3) meat shops. They are also getting Galloway beef on the menus of some of the top-end restaurants in Calgary.

Beginning January 1, 2005, Canadian cattlemen will be starting to place new RFID tags in animals left ears. Canada is becoming a leading country in radio frequency tagging. Our new tags will be red in color, country coded 124, and operate in the low frequency range.

Bob Airth

Summary of the Danish annual reports and discussions 2003 and 2004

Since the last meeting the Danish Galloway Society has changed chairman. Thorkild Rohde was chairman from the beginning of our organisation. He has now retired from job, cattle and organisation. We thank him for his work for our society through the years. Our new chairman is Niels Erik Nielsen.

We have had some restructuring in the cattle organisations. 'Danish Cattle' is the main organisation, 'Danish Beef Cattle' is part of it, but dominated by milk cattle people. Within 'Danish Beef Cattle' the Galloway Society is a little organisation, but has joined forces with the organisations of the other small races. In that way we hope to have a better chance to be heard.

The latest change in EU-agricultural politics is expected to have a severe influence on the production of beef cattle. The subsidies will be given to land instead of to heads. Many beef cattle farmers say they will close down. A reduction from 20-50% might be the result. Biologists are concerned about the consequences for those types of landscapes depending on cattle grazing. That is areas like wetlands, meadows and poor grassland where it is important for flora and fauna that the vegetation is kept low. It is expected to be necessary to pay for grazing of these areas. It is areas well suited for Galloways, so we hope the change in politics might not be so bad for Galloway farmers.

The control of diseases has been lightened a bit with respect to BVD because the number of outbreaks of BVD have been dramatically reduced over the last 5 years. IBR has not been seen in many years. Castration has now to be done by operation.

Over the last year Galloway has had the lowest calving mortality of all races in Denmark. Selling and exporting breeding animals was quite difficult in the beginning of 2003. It is better this year.

The annual summer meeting of the Danish Galloway Society took in 2003 place in Germany. More precisely just south of the danish/german border. We visited a beautiful belted herd by Riekens, a black herd by Christiansen and had an interesting trip trough the marshland. This year we are going to Sealand in the beginning of September. These meetings are very important since many good connections are created.

There has been a growing interest in Galloway's over the last year. That is among other things expressed in a 25% increase in number of members of our society. It will be interesting to see what influence the change in EU-subsidies will have on the number of Galloway breeders in the years to come.

Ernst Kempf

Galloways in Germany

The general conditions of the Breeding Law is fixed by the European Commission. The member states have to transform the directive in national law. In Germany the federal states can interpretate the national law and therefore the registration systems differ more or less.

In Germany exist 11 herd-book societies. This associations are organized in one umbrella organisation, the BDF. In 2003 the BDF decided to use a standardized registration and assessment system. This was evaluated from the BDG.

All Galloways each colour and with each pigmentation belong to one breed: Galloway. The herdbook for galloway consists of four sections for unique coloured galloway, belted galloway, white galloway and riggitt galloway. Beneath the usual details containing a pedigree each animal gets a special standardized note about it's colour and pigmentation.

Colour	Black	Red	dun
Pigmentation			
Unique	GALs	GALr	GALb
Belted	BGAs	BGAR	BGAb
White	WGAs	WGAr	WGAb
Riggitt	RGAs	RGAr	RGAb

Herdbook operation system for cattle without fieldtest requirement

Line	EC-Norm	Herdbook Parts	Claim for Bulls	Claim for Cows
1	pure bred breeding cattle	main herdbook part A/E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - sire herdbook part A/E - dam herdbook part A/E - individual rating 106 points index minimum for character /skeleton at least note 6 - DNA-tested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - rating for character, muscelation / fleshing and sceleton each note 6 or better
2		main herdbook part A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 generations ancestors in the herdbook - sire herdbook part A/E - dam at least herdbook part A - individual rating more than 88 points index for character /skeleton at least note 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 generations ancestors in the herdbook - rating each note 5 or better - rating for character, muscelation / fleshing and sceleton at least note 5 - recording of first calving, times between the calvings and calving itself
2		main herdbook part B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 generations ancestors in the herdbook - sire herdbook part B - dam herdbook part B - animal not valuated or below 88 points index for character /skeleton at least note 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 generations ancestors in the herdbook - rating for character, muscelation / fleshing and sceleton below note 5 - animal not valuated - recording of first calving, times between the calvings and calving itself
3	registered breeding cattle	Herdbook Appendix C		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - sire and ancestors in the herdbook - dam at least appendix D in the herdbook - rating for character, muscelation / fleshing and sceleton at least note 6 - recording of first calving, times between the calvings and calving itself
4		Herdbook Appendix D		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - safe identification - showing the breed character - rating for character, muscelation / fleshing and sceleton at least note 5

Galloway Getaway 2004 with Galloway-World Conference

Report by Ole Grubbe

In general, the year 2003 was not as good as 2002 for the German Galloway breeding and cattle breeding although having started very hopeful. The first bigger regional shows in January and February in Alsfeld, Verden and Krefeld showed many excellent galloways in the ring, mostly black ones but besides them nearly every colour or pattern. In Krefeld, for instance, the Grand Champion and Champion bulls have been White Galloways. The demand for bulls was good and also the prices at the auctions were acceptable. In Verden we had an extra auction at 9.00 pm during the party for the breeders. From every leading breed of the show two hand selected heifers in calf were on the stage and the two galloway heifers made the top prices with 2500 and 3100 Euro. But later in the year the market for breeding cattle raised down again.

The whole market was influenced negatively by the great draught we had in most parts of Germany with the hottest summer since measuring and registration has started. In some regions only one cut of poor grass could be done instead of normally two or three and at the end of the summer some breeders started to feed their hay and silage for winter already. Under these circumstances a normal market was impossible. There was no request for breeding cattle.

Another reason that the herds didn't increase is the changing of subsidies. In the last years the EU paid for every suckler cow and from 2005 they pay for the suckler cows which the farms had in the period from 2000 up to 2002. So, in 2003 and 2004 most herds are only replacing their stock but for business management reasons there was no reason to increase the number of cattle.

The Galloway breed still has problems with the acceptance in the farm business. It's reflected in two main reasons. Most of the Galloway breeders are hobby breeders and the economic is not in the foreground, they don't have an eye on breeding a meat type, therefore the slaughtering weight is not high enough. In many herds there is still no weight control and nor measurement on backfat and ribeye area. The other reason is, if we want to sell the cattle conventional to the market the conditions have to be 330 Kilogramm slaughtering weight at 18 months to get the average and acceptable price.

The year 2004 started not much better with a long period of cold and dry weather in spring and afterwards cold and wet part in beginning of summer. The first shows have seen again lots of good galloways but the prices raised down again. The official great show, the 8th National Galloway Show, in 2004 took part in Alsfeld again like every year on the 1st May with 80 excellent galloways. Most German galloway breeders don't give up and we've seen excellent cattle especially with strong groups of bulls and heifers.

Another highlight of 2004 was the Lower Saxony Country Show for beef cattle held on July, 20, 2004 in Tarmstedt. There were shown 50 galloways as the strongest group of all the breeds.

Our new herdbook and registration system is working well. Only a small group of breeders in Northern Germany still have their own regulations. One beef cattle society in Schleswig-Holstein representing now less than 100 breeders and 500 pedigree cattle don't agree with the common system and isolates themselves.

Due to the general situation, we had some problems losing breeders in general and members of the society who mainly had given up breeding. At present, our main problem is the economical situation in Germany. You should know that a large number of German galloway breeders are working as part time farmers and doing this as their hobby. In general, there can be recognized a slow but steady change towards the normal position of the cattle-pyramid with a small peak on top of pedigree cattle and a wide spread of commercial cattle. Up to now it is the opposite way in Germany but now slowly changing to normal.

The cattle data of 2003 were the following published numbers of breeding pedigree cattle and breeders officially counted by the German Beef Cattle Society in response:

- Breeders of pedigree cattle: 947 (in 2002: 943)
- Breeders of commercial cattle: 261 (in 2002: 240)
- Breeding pedigree bulls: 693 (in 2002: 783)
- Breeding pedigree cows: 5.858 (in 2002: 6.475)

After a long period of decrease there is a first sign of increase in herds to be recognized in 2003 and that seems to continue also in 2004.

The sold-market for breeding cattle in 2002 and 2003 with pedigree was as follows:

Year	Breeding bulls		Bulling heifers		heifers in calf		Cows with calf on foot or in calf	
	Number	Average Price	Number	Average Price	Number	Average Price	Number	Average Price
2002	133	1.417 Euro	77	659 Euro	140	870 Euro	109	864 Euro
2003	134	1.212 Euro	96	773 Euro	101	823 Euro	62	711 Euro

Again, in 2003 a small number of cattle has been exported to Hungary, Austria, Denmark, Czech Republik, Switzerland, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Belgium. A highlight were two larger transports to Russia with a total number of 100 animals, mostly heifers and some bulls.

There are further more galloway cattle in Germany but not counted because their breeders are not members of any society and don't register their cattle. In Germany it is still allowed to breed cattle only controlled and supervised by the Vet-Service of the Government. Also the commercial cattle are not counted for the statistics and as far as we know there are many of small herds commercial cattle.

In 2003 we celebrated the 30th year of Galloway Cattle grazing officially in Germany and the 20th year after foundation of our society, the "Bundesverband Deutscher Gallowayzüchter". Therefore we had a great anniversary show in Alsfeld with 90 galloways in nearly every colour and pattern shown in the ring. Visitors and guests from Austria, Switzerland, Luxembourg and the Netherlands celebrated this event with us. In the evening, for our anniversary party near by the ring we had a pipe-band with two native Scotsmen from Dumfries playing Scottish music for the audience. It was a long night with a lot of fun and interesting talks.

In 2004 at our annual meeting we had regular elections for the managing board and I had retired after two periods as chairman. I think, eight years were enough and now I will continue only with the work for our Galloway-Journal as editor in chief of staff. Our new chairman is Ulla Limbach. She studied agriculture and owns a herd of black and dun galloways and I'm sure she will promote the breed for a better future.

Galloway Cattle Society GB & Ireland – September 2004 Report.

Galloway cattle in GB & Ireland are as much in demand as ever, with the spring sales a great success with nearly 100% sold and averages up on the year at both the Society's sale centres (Castle Douglas and Carlisle). At the Castle Douglas Sale a new breed record for females was set for the Champion of the pre sale show, Blackcraig Noreen J38, a very stylish heifer from J & A Finlay, Blackcraig, Corsock, sold for 7500gns to the 2003 Herd of the year winner Jean Cruikshank, Horsburgh Castle, Peebles and Society Vice-Chairman Mr Robert McIntosh. She was bought to compete in the 2004 show circuit. Leading the Bulls was Blackcraig Kazan an 18-month-old bull by the Canadian import, Diamond B Knockout who is shared by Klondyke Farms and was bought for 6000gns by Robert McIntosh and Robin and Alan McClymont, Kirkstead Yarrow.

The Male Champion from Drew and Peter Brown, Drumhumphry, Corsock was Drumhumphry Keane, a rising two-year old son of Blackcraig Hugo, Duncan Maxwell, Blairvockie, Balmaha purchased him.

The Reserve Female Champion Mary 12th of Castle Milk from D & M Gall, Cardona was placed second to the Champion, in the one of the strongest females classes seen for some time, S K & S Brown took this dun heifer home for 2200gns.

The Shows are important part of our promotions and we hope to build on the success of last year's shows. Jean Cruikshank and Robert McIntosh started the show season well with their new purchase Blackcraig Noreen J38 she secured Breed Champion and Reserve Overall Champion at Ayr Show, which is the first show of the season. The other main shows are the Royal Highland Show in June and the Royal Show and the Great Yorkshire Shows in July were very well supported with both exhibitors and spectators. The Champion at the Royal Highland Show was Denis and Margaret Gall, whom many of you know, as used to be stockman at the famous Castle Milk Herd. Their stylish two year old heifer Silverbell 12th of Corrie, was first shown at the National Show at Kelso, was placed first in a very strong class. The same class also produced the Reserve Champion, Barlaes Katie 24th from Peter Hunter Blair, Nether Cleugh, which was purchased at the Society Sale in October. Champion Male was Blackcraig Gusto from Klondyke Farms Ltd. The Royal and Great Yorkshire Show Champions was Marbrack Ruffle from Alan McMillan, this cow in milk has won many Champions over the years. Reserve Champion at the Royal Show was from Dougie Ross, Romesbeoch, Doon of Urr Moira 80th and the Reserve Champion at the Great Yorkshire was also Alan McMillan with Doloris of Moorhouse.

Our National show is a relative new event and our second one was held in the heart of Galloway Country at Dumfries & Lockerbie Show on one of the hottest days of the summer. We had great privilege in welcoming well-known Galloway enthusiasts Mr John McIlwraith from Puslinch, Ontario, Canada to judge and what a display of cattle on show. With 75 cattle entered it was the largest show of Galloways seen for some time and every animal was a credit to its exhibitor.

The standard of Females stole the show with the Champion Blackcraig Blondchen J64 form J & A Finlay, Blackcraig coming from the largest class of the day. This stylish

heifer was on her first outing and is a Diamond B Knockout daughter. Taking the Reserve Champion spot was the show winning Blackcraig Bertha J22 from J & S Ross, Romesbeoch. Her calf Bertha 214 of Romesbeoch also secured the Junior Championship, with a calf from Blackcraig taking reserve and reserve male champion. The Male Champion was also Blackcraig breeding, Blackcraig Gusto from Klondyke Farm Ltd secured the red, white and blue ticket.

With the summer circuit of shows over our thought turn to our two sales, which are held in Castle Douglas and Carlisle, the forecast is good, as Galloways are in much demand, mainly because of the change of subsidy EU Farmers receive and people are seeking self efficient cattle with little input and Galloways certainly fits the bill.

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of our Vice-President Mr James Biggar, Chapelton, Castle Douglas. At 92 years of age he has seen many things, before Foot and Mouth Disease, he had the oldest herd of Galloways. Cattle were his passion he had been successful in both the show ring and sale ring, winning many prizes include the famous Smithfield Championship. He will be greatly missed by many, none more then daughters Judy and Kay and son Donald and their families.

On behalf of the Galloway Cattle Society of GB & Ireland, I would like to wish you a very successful and enjoyable trip and we would take great pleasure to welcome you to Great Britain, to show you some of our Galloways. If you would like to keep up to date on what is happening please visit our web page www.gallowaycattlesociety.co.uk

**REPORT FROM THE GALLOWAY CATTLE SOC. OF NEW ZEALAND
TO THE 2004 CONFERENCE OF GALLOWAY INTERNATIONAL.**

Ladies & gentlemen, it is my pleasure to furnish the following report to your meeting;

The Galloway Cattle Society of NZ registers all three of the "Galloway" breeds, previously in three separate sections, but from this year, in one section with the individual breeds separately coded.

There is no facility to upgrade using any other breed but "interbreeding" between the three Galloway breeds will be allowed.

Our current membership of just over 100, comprises breeder & nonbreeder members & our affairs are administered by a Council comprising 8 male & 4 female breeder members who meet 3 times a year. Our membership as well as the number of calf registrations has increased steadily in the last 2 years & it has been pleasing to see increased activity in our Galloway section.

We have recently extended our registrations to include pure bred miniatures.

During the last 2 years the Society has initiated a computerized registration programme which is about to have the last 2 years registrations & transfers loaded with the previous 55 years data to follow. This programme, along with promotion stalls at agricultural field days, are our major expenditure items. We consider our promotion stalls are most effective as it enables us to have face to face dialogue with prospective breeders. We are also pleased with the increasing number of breeders who are showing their animals.

Current concerns for our Society are;

1. Reduced interest of commercial farmers in our breeds.
2. Reduced rates of genetic gain amongst increasing numbers of herds with small cow numbers.
3. Legal implications associated with animal ownership disputes.
4. The necessity to introduce an eradication programme to eliminate Mannosidosis from our herds.
5. A breeding programme to give the highest proportion of correctly marked White Galloway calves. We would be pleased to hear from other Society's who have already dealt with these matters.

Thankyou for your attention & wishing you an interesting & enjoyable Conference.

John Thomson, President

AGBA Report to Galloway World Council

The members of the American Galloway Breeders' Association offer our visitors their warmest greetings!

Since our last communication some significant events have occurred in the cattle industry in North America. Certainly the BSE issue in both Canada and the U.S. has halted the exchange of genetics between us and our Canadian neighbors, as well as precipitated a postponement of the planned 2004 return of the Galloway breed to the National Western Stock Show in Denver, Colorado, USA. Two faithful breeders did set up pen displays at the Denver show and found their cattle well received, even to the point of setting up a new breeder in Colorado. The plan is to proceed with a Galloway show in Denver in 2005 regardless of the status of the U.S. – Canada border issue.

On the flip side of the BSE coin, interest and public awareness of grass-finished beef as an alternative beef source has been and should continue to be a boon to the Galloway breed here in the U.S. as consumers further scrutinize the feeding practices that produce their beef. Also advertising in the *Stockman Grass Farmer* and exposure through our website have served to increase awareness of the Galloway breed's merits for improving the conversion of grass to quality beef. The interest by farmers and ranchers in producing grass-finished beef is definitely on the increase in this country, and the Galloway breed has much to offer them.

The AGBA is honored to be co-hosting the Galloway World Congress in September 2004.

Sincerely,

Sarah Bowman

President AGBA

U.S. Belted Galloway Society, Inc.
Report to Galloway World Council
September 24, 2004

The Belted Galloway Society in the United States continues to enjoy steady growth. Currently regular, associate and junior members total approximately 890, and active animals total approximately 11,000 in our Herd Book and Appendix to the Herd Book. The business of the Society is conducted by a nine-member Council consisting of a President, Vice-President and Immediate Past President working with six Councilmen elected by the membership.

A tax-exempt Belted Galloway Foundation has been established and endowed by generous contributions, with its purpose the conduct of breed research and education without depletion of the Society's operating funds. Of the Foundation's donated \$107,000 funding has so far been provided for a Breeders Manual, for Chatfield Scholarship awards, and in support of the Beltie Youth Group. In addition, the donated Rose Herd is being used in ongoing grassfed trials.

The Belted Galloway, long considered unique and ornamental so favored by hobby breeders in the U.S., is coming into its own. Proliferation of the breed along with the recent consumer interest in home-raised and grassfed beef has caused our breeders to reassess the animal's bottom-line value. More are entering serious beef production each year.

There are a dozen shows on our circuit with the North American in Louisville, Kentucky in November ending the season. Two or three sales are held each year. Average animal sale price at Fryeburg in 2003 was \$2210 and in 2004 was \$1735. Average at the 2003 Deep South Sale in Tennessee was \$1755, and at Ohio in 2004 was \$2429.

The *U.S. Beltie News*, a monthly newsletter, is in its 14th year of regular distribution. The first magazine-style *Beltie Annual* was published early in 2004 and the next issue will be produced in January, 2005. We invite reports for the upcoming issue from our sister associations around the world.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Faul and Richard Anderson

Swiss Galloway Society

Report to Galloway World Council 2004

It is too bad that no members of the Swiss Galloway Society will be able to attend the meeting in the USA. We have been very busy with a big exhibit in Zürich, Switzerland called Beef 04. The exhibit lasted for ten days and members of our Club had to be present all the time.

The Swiss Galloways are meanwhile ranking third in Beef Cattle of Switzerland. You certainly know that in our country the vast majority of cattle are milk producing animals. The famous Swiss chocolate and the Swiss Emmental Cheese brand are made from their milk. This means that mother cow herds and beef production are still a little minority in this country. Nonetheless it is a growing market. The first Galloways were imported into Switzerland only in 1994. The reason for the late possibility to import Beef Cattle into this country were government measures to protect the Swiss milk industry.

The Swiss Galloway Society has been growing steadily. We count 180 regular members and the head count of Swiss Galloways lies around 3000. We are very proud to have an absolutely closed herd book which allows us to produce 100% pure bred animals in our pedigree. This is an enormous advantage since mixing different brands e.g. Galloway x Angus, or Galloway x Simmental etc. are only good for F1 offspring. Pure bred animals are necessary to keep up the great Galloway genetics.

The Galloway is the ideal cattle for pre-alpine and alpine regions in this country. The grass on alpine pastures produces a fine meat with lots of linoleic acid, a fatty acid that has long been known for its protective effect in human health. It is therefore needless to say that our research goes in the direction of comparing the relation of n-6 fatty acids vs. n-3 fatty acids in the Galloway as compared to other cattle and fish. Our results are very promising and we are convinced that the health issue is a very good point in selling the meat of our cows.

The taste is so good however that we weren't even forced to stress the health issue too much since customers are standing in line to buy our meat...(no joke!).

Closing this little update on the Swiss Galloway Society also means telling you that we are a prosperous fast growing branch of the Galloway family in a country where beef production traditionally is very competitive.

With the kindest regards from Switzerland and wishing you a great meeting

yours

Bert von Fischer

Secretary of the Swiss Galloway Society

ALL THE WAY WITH GALLOWAY