



AUZRED XB APRIL 2016

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our April 2016 newsletter:

- **Letter from Les Hansen on the first results of the Large Scale crossbreeding trial**
- **Letter from Guillaume Duffet, Coopex Montbeliarde Export Manager**
- **COOPEX Montbeliarde April Sire Proof reviews**
- **BLEND PACK SPECIALS**
- **AUSSIE REDS, Genomic V's Auzred Xb Elite Young Aussie Reds**
- **Current Price List**

Welcome;

As dairy farmers ourselves, Karen and Wayne farming at Eskdale in Northern Victoria and myself and my sons Brock and Tim and their wives, Jackie and Teena at Tyers in Gippsland, the industry price drops, which were already 32% below 18 months ago, are having a dramatic effect on how we view our respective business's. Both of our business's, like the majority that crossbreed, are continually structuring the core of our business's, that of milk production for long-term survival, and are now looking at strategies and practices that we can implement to secure that long-term future.

Karen and Wayne are well into the process of looking at every expense and asking the questions, do we need this? What will happen if we skip or reduce in a given area next year? Karen was quite surprised where she is finding savings

For my farm at Tyers, we have a succession plan kicking in, and plan for the farm to be here and running profitably well into the future with our strategy for 2016/2017 being;

- Review all costs from the past 3 years, not just last season, to ascertain any areas with real opportunity to remove or reduce for this coming season
- Reduce milking herd from 400 to 350, big savings at low milk price by increasing the pasture to supplement ratio fed.
- Plant 15 ha of Chicory in August on our hill country.
- Reduce irrigation area if chicory is doing well over Dec, Jan & Feb
- Continue to look at how to stay positive
- Continue irrigation plant update, pivot or laterals being investigated

From Auzred Xb, we will be offering **Blend Packs** to reduce your Montbeliarde semen costs, the Blend packs will be in 50, 75 or 100 unit bundles, these packs are already proving popular, with clients getting up to 60 units Genomic Monty sires and 40 units Aussie Red in the 100 unit Blend pack @ \$1540+gst/ \$15.40/unit, RRP for this pack to the client was \$2000+gst. For more information, read our Blend Pack Specials section in this newsletter.

First results on large-scale field study into crossbreeding;

Greetings to my dairy cattle friends!

At long last, we have the first "final" results from our large-scale, long-term (10 years), and carefully-designed field study on ProCROSS versus pure Holstein dairy cattle. ProCROSS is a 3-breed rotational crossbreeding program including the three breeds of Holstein, Montbeliarde, and Viking Red.

The first results from the 10-year study can be found at the following website:

<http://www.ansci.umn.edu/research/crossbreeding-dairy-cattle>

The results are presented as a 10-page review article written for a lay dairy audience in both U.S. and metric units. We will also be submitting these results for scholarly publication using scientific jargon. The results are the first to be reported from this long-term research initiative, and they include only first-lactation performance of 2-breed crossbreds at very high herd management levels.

In the future, we will report lifetime performance of these cows, and the results for fertility, health, and survival of cows as they age will be especially interesting. Also, we will eventually report results for the 3-breed ProCROSS (Holstein, Montbeliarde, Viking Red) cattle.

The results are near expectation for the Viking Red x Holstein crossbreds if the performance of Swedish Red and Holsteins in Sweden are averaged and then 3% added as a bonus (from heterosis) for production and 10% added as a bonus (from heterosis) for the functional traits. The results from the Montbeliarde x Holstein crossbreds for production are especially noteworthy. Both types of crossbreds produced extremely well in the high management herds and had less stature (height) but greater body condition than their pure Holstein herdmates.

An ongoing issue for the Montbeliarde breed (and the Fleckvieh and Normande breeds, too) for crossbreeding programs is the added body condition they bring. Some dairy producers view extra body condition as an indicator of lack of feed efficiency. The global Holstein breed has selected for a very tall and thin cow for many decades; therefore, today, almost all Holsteins are very tall and very thin. However, the Montbeliarde breed (as well as the Fleckvieh and Normande breeds) has selected for high production coupled with selection FOR (not against) body condition. One gets what one selects for!

The virtues of maintenance of baseline body condition for dairy cows are now well documented -- improved fertility, fewer health issues, longer herd life, greater mobility (more fatty pad in the base of the hoof), reduced death loss, and greater salvage value of cull cows. Testimonials from dairy producers are that ProCROSS cattle are more feed efficient than pure Holsteins.

All dairy cows in the confinement dairy herd at the University of Minnesota are now either 3-breed ProCROSS or pure Holstein dairy cattle. Therefore, we are currently conducting a 3-year study to collect daily feed intakes and body measurements alongside all of the other standard traits in our research herd. Previously, we published results for feed intake of our Montbeliarde x Holstein crossbreds compared to pure Holsteins, and the Montbeliarde crossbreds consumed no more feed (statistically no more feed, but numerically less feed) than pure Holstein with identical production. We believe the results from our current study on feed intake with our research herd will nicely supplement the results from the large field study.

I thought many of you would have interest in these results. Feel free to share this information as you see fit.

The very best to each of you in 2016!

Warm regards,

Les Hansen

Leslie B Hansen, Ph.D.

Morse Alumni Distinguished Teaching

Professor of Animal Science
University of Minnesota



Dear Australian farmers,

In Australia, with our long-term partner **AUZRED XB COMPANY**, we're dedicated to offer you the best Montbeliarde bulls to enable you to build a strong, healthy and productive dairy herd. This year, within an important line-up of genomic and proven bulls, our challenge was exciting: to select the best milk enhancers with high components delivery and in the meantime, to balance the bloodlines to keep inbreeding as low as possible. Finally the last target is to make your daily work easier with your cows, meaning less maintenance and easy cows to milk and handle.

After many years of genomic selection, we're very proud to show you the accuracy of that biotechnology with, as great results, some famous proven bulls:

- **ELASTAR**. You probably know this bulls in Australia for a long time. He now has confirmed his superiority and is ranked in the Top 10 bulls in the last run.
- **CRASAT**. He is the Best Proven Montbeliarde Sire in the last run, even after a couple of years.
- **FAUCITRE**. As a genomic bull, we expected him to be an all-rounder, suitable to large commercial dairy herds. With now 60 daughters in his proofs, he confirms its superiority: milk quantity and quality enhancer (+ 30kg P, + 33kg Fat), positive functional traits for cows very easy to work with (+123 TEM.)

Trust the genomic selection will give you more choices to breed your herd. Genomic bulls like:

- **HARPER**: he will have daughters in his proofs in the next run. He continues to match quite well the crossbreeding criterias: CE (+93 pts), Stature (94 pts), Functional traits (Repro +1,8 pts, P.L. +1 pt).
- **GNOCCHI**: His first daughters confirm his genomic value: medium sized cows (+ 92 pts) with great chest width (+ 108 pts) and very resistant (+ 118 pts F&L).

will help you to mate easily your cows and especially your heifers.

Thanks to a new way of calculation (addition of all results of DNA tests of the females into the database), the reliability of the genomic selection has increased by **10 points** in average this year for **EVERY YOUNG BULL**.

That means, basically, **THE CURRENT INDEX OF A GENOMIC BULL IS THE EQUIVALENT OF A PREVIOUS INDEX WITH 30-40 DAUGHTERS, BUT YOU'VE SAVED 6 YEARS.**

At COOPEX Montbeliarde, we will always give you access to the best bulls available, with a satisfying blend price. So, whether you're looking for milk, health or reproduction traits, you will find a line-up of diversified bulls to face the upfront challenges of the dairy industry. You will always rely on the Montbeliarde breed as the first step on your seek of profitability.

On behalf of the COOPEX Montbeliarde Company, I wish you a successful breeding season and look forward to receive your feedbacks, to better and continually improve our work.

Guillaume DUFFET,
Export Manager at COOPEX Montbeliarde,
In charge of AUSTRALIA

COOPEX Montbeliarde April Sire Proof reviews;

The Proven Proofs of the Genomic sires selected by Auzred Xb to bring to Australia has continued to increase our confidence in these young sires.

CRASAT, ELASTAR and FAUCITRE now hold the No. 1, 2 & 4 positions respectively on the Proven Montbeliarde list in France. All three were originally selected as Genomic sires to market here.

Currently we are working on the selection of the next group of new Genomic sires to add to the team. The top new Genomic sires on the Coopex list are available only in sexed with the exception of a couple. Conventional semen is now available from ILAX ISU 152, a Triomphe grandson, HORNET ISU 151 and Brink son IOUPY ISU 145.

The Genomic sires available only in sexed that we are considering are IMPEC ISU 155, he is another Brink son and Papayou grandson, JOYLAND ISU 154, ITALIC ISU 154 and also ILAX ISU 152. For those that use sexed semen, please check them out on the Coopex website <http://www.coopex.com/index-en.php> and let us know which ones you would prefer.

With the **ISU base change of -4 points**, **Crasat** was ISU 161 is now ISU 157, so has held his proof with more daughters added, **Elastar** has moved up to become #2 at ISU 156 and **Faucitre** has gained his first proven proof and has jumped into 4th spot

ELASTAR ISU 156, is now the #2 ranked proven Monty, big increase in daughters 848 in his latest proof, and has 490 daughters in his Type proof. His daughters are 26% smaller than the breed on average, but has an Overall Type of 100, Udders 114 and F&L's 122, Temp 113, MS 112. Efficiency of production is a big strength of Elastar with +32kg protein, combined with one of the highest ratings for cow fertility @ +1.6. Elastar is the perfect choice for over large HF cows.

CRASAT ISU 157, the #1 Monty, has daughters milking here in Australia with very good reviews. Now with 489 daughters in his French proof, and 390 daughters in his Type proof, Crasat continues to hold the #1 rated position.

FAUCITRE ISU 151, the #4 Monty, his Genomic prediction was ISU 150, an Urbanitse son with very high components +0.19 Pro & +0.19 B/fat, high production, +30kg Pro & +33 kg B/Fat. He has an exceptional Temp @ 123, much better MS than his sire of 104, in all a very good sire to use in any crossbreeding situation.

CORTIL ISU 136, now with 1862 daughters in his proof, plus 1367 in his Type proof. Very high production +30kg Pro & +37 B/Fat with positive deviations. Temp 128, strong fore udders 123 and Rear Udder height 112, Cortil is a very good, high reliability sire to use in any crossbreeding situation.

Genomic sire Guisseny ISU 133 has his first daughters milking, he is one of the best for Fertility @ +1.1. Has good Fore Udders 108 and Rear Udder Height 117 with strong Centre Ligament @ 108. Productive Life +0.9 . Guisseny is a very handy bull and suitable to use in any crossbreeding situation.

BLEND PACK SPECIALS, plus our 100+unit packs are still running.

Auzred Xb Blend Packs are the best way to reduce your mating season semen costs, they are available in 50, 75 & 100 unit packs containing 50/50 Coopex Montbeliarde and our Elite young Aussie Reds.

There has been some exceptions where we have increased to a 60/40 blend for some clients that have asked, so please ask what we can do.

All of our Coopex Montbeliarde and Elite young Aussie Reds can be used in the Blend Packs, giving you the option to save up to \$750+gst for a 100 unit Blend Pack of Crasat with a blend price of \$19.50/unit, down to a blend price of \$12+gst the lowest priced Solstice/Aussie Red Blend Pack.

50 unit CRASAT Blend Pack \$975+gst. RRP is \$1350*+gst saving \$375*+gst

Order 25 CRASAT and 25 of any of our Aussie Reds, and get the 50 units at an average \$19.50/unit +gst. Crasat is RRP \$40, awesome value! *RRP for the pack is \$1300-\$1350+gst dependent on which Aussie Red bulls are selected.

The Maths for example;

25 units Crasat x \$40= \$1000+gst

+25 units AXBTopdeck x \$14= \$350+gst

Total \$1350+gst,

50 unit Blend Pack @ \$975+gst, Saving \$375+gst, makes Topdeck cheap!

Order a 100 unit CRASAT Blend Pack and you can save a maximum of \$850+gst

50 unit Blend Pack of #3 Ranked Monty ELASTAR/ Elite Aussie Red, RRP \$1150*+gst @ \$850*+gst, save \$300

Order 25 ELASTAR and 25 of our Aussie Reds and get the 50 units at an average \$17/unit +gst. Elastar is RRP \$32

50 unit CORTIL Blend Pack @ \$775+gst Saving a maximum \$225 on 50 units

Order 25 CORTIL and 25 of our Aussie Reds and get the 50 units at an average \$15.50/unit +gst. CORTIL is RRP \$26

100+ Unit packs;

All of our sires, both Coopex Montbeliarde and our Aussie Reds can be purchased in these 100+ unit packs, all of one sire or any combination, check the price list attached in the 100+unit column for prices on this offer.

All Auzred Xb Aussie Reds are just \$10+gst in the 100+unit packs, use them with confidence and reduce your semen costs for this season.

Auzred Xb Aussie Red update;

AXBCommodus, BPI (predicted)

Now has his first daughters calving, extremely quiet, deep bodied, medium size, strong and robust with great udders, we look forward to bring you production results,

AXBFonterra, BPI (predicted)

Also with daughters calving, very happy with them so far and also look forward to his Workability and Production results as the season progresses.

AUSSIE REDS, Genomic V's Auzred Xb Elite Young Aussie Reds for \$ value & reliability

Australia is currently working on Genomics for Aussie Reds in Australian conditions, there is a difference in the genomic markers for TMR housed cows in Europe compared to genomic markers needed for our pasture based cows, hence, it's been a slow process with a small data set to get it right under our conditions.

With all the hype about genomics, how do the imported genomic reds compare to our Auzred Xb Aussie Red sires, the assumption, with all the hype, would be that the genomic bulls would be on top in all areas when converted to Australian proofs. WRONG, when analysing the data sourced from ADHIS, our Elite Young Aussie Red sires are way ahead in all areas of production, BPI and reliability when you look at their predicted Australian ABV's.

Why pay big \$'s for an imported genomic red sire when you can get an Australian bred sire with far higher reliability and predicted production @ \$10+gst in our 100+unit packs, even less in the Blend Packs

Just how do Auzred Xb Aussie Reds stack up against the Imported Genomic Reds

Data Sourced from ADHIS Website	Auzred Xb Aussie Reds average for predicted ABV	Imported Genomic Reds average for predicted ABV	Predicted difference in favour of Auzred Xb Aussie Reds
BPI	158	60	+101
BPI Rel %	37%	19%	+18%
ASI	129	25	+104
Protein kg	20	4	+16
B/Fat kg	19	0.2	+18.8
Protein Dev %	+0.16%	+0.06%	+0.15%
Production Rel %	47%	22%	+25%

Proofs of both Auzred Xb Aussie Reds and Imported Genomic Red sires available on ADHIS website

Find out more on our website at <http://www.auzredxb.com.au/>

Cheers,

Steve & Karen