

## THE BULLETIN

of

The American Dexter Cattle Association  
Decorah, Iowa

July, 1977

### REGRETS!!

The editor regrets that there haven't been any issues of The Bulletin recently. Job, farm, and other business activities have demanded so much time that it was impossible to compile The Bulletin.

### REGIONAL MEETINGS

Four very fine regional meetings were held between the July, 1976 annual meeting, and December 31. These meetings were held at Bridgewater Corners, VT, Boulder, CO, and Georgetown, DE. Following is a brief summary of each meeting:

Bridgewater Corners, VT - September 11, 1976 - Eighteen people, all Dexter enthusiasts, converged on Wilmer Schnell to participate in the first New England Regional Meeting of the American Dexter Cattle Association. Wilmer Schnell, the Regional Director, led the discussion, dealing with characteristics and traits of Dexters. He was later assisted by Mark Davis in a discussion of the association's organization and operation. Following a very fine lunch, Stephen Roberts, DVM of Woodstock, VT, author of the text on obstetrics in Veterinary Medicine, spoke on breeding of Dexters and the problem of bulldog calves. Dr. Roberts referred to the work that had been done by Crewe's in 1923-24. Dr. Roberts pointed out that bulldogs (dwarfism) do not seem to occur at a higher rate in Dexters than any other breed.

Editor's Note - Dr. Fredrick Hutt, Syracuse University, worked on dwarfism in Dexters. His findings were that in breeding short- to long-legged animals and vice-versa, that the lethal gene would remain a recessive trait.

Boulder, CO - October 16, 1976 - Sixteen Dexter admirers convened at the residence of John Howard to meet and learn from Frank McCabe, Regional Director, Helen Debruyne, and Hans Walther. Mr. McCabe related some of his fourteen years of experiences with Dexters, in addition to registration, artificial insemination, and bulldogging. Helen Debruyne spoke on calf and cow nutrition, care of young animals, including preventative maintenance against worms and insects. Hans Walther spoke on raising and milking Dexters in Colorado, which was of paramount interest to all.

Georgetown, DE - October 30, 1976 - Approximately eighteen people met at the University of Delaware Agricultural Substation to hear William Henderson, Sussex County Extension Agent talk about care and feeding of Dexters. After Mr. Henderson's presentation, Mark Davis, Regional Director, displayed and discussed different pieces of equipment that are especially useful when working with Dexters. Following lunch, the group went to Bill Gray's farm to look at his Dexters, as well as to see Dr. Robert Hermann's slides of Dexters in England.

Bloomsbury, NJ - Tony Pressens, Regional Director for Eastern Pennsylvania-New Jersey, held a meeting at his place in the late fall. The primary purpose of the meeting was to develop an organizational structure for the purpose of management. Tony is to be commended for his tremendous enthusiasm since his appointment as a Director in Pittsburgh.

### TWO REGIONAL MEETINGS SCHEDULED

August 27, 1977 - 12:00 Noon - Boulder, Colorado - John Howard's Farm  
2049 N. 95th Street

Topic: Animal Genetics

Call 303-665-4137 if you can attend!



October, 1977 - Benbyre Farm

Accord, New York

Call Palmer Langdon 201-487-3700 for details!

### DEXTERS ON EXHIBITION

Tony Pressens, Regional Director for Eastern Pennsylvania-New Jersey, exhibited his Dexters last year. Tony's account follows:

#### NEW JERSEY CATTLEMEN'S FIELD DAY

OR

#### ANOTHER FIRST FOR THE DEXTER

On July 31, 1976, the New Jersey Cattlemen's Show was held at Stone Row Farm, Stockton, New Jersey.

After several telephone calls, it was decided to enter our one-year heifer in the Exhibit Class.

The day before the show, our heifer, Magen, was brought to the Hunterdon Hills Farm, in Stockton, for some professional cleaning and grooming. The farm is well known for their prize-winning Holsteins, managed by John Paulmier and Sons.

Show day saw us early morning transferring Magen to the Stone Row Farm, exhibit area.

Our heifer is a family pet and leads very well; like a large Newfoundland. For her first outing, she behaved very well. We navigated around the Simmental group, on past the Angus and Hereford lineup, just making our way by the Charolais, to a large pen--marked DEXTER. Looking about, one would feel sorry for those owners coaxing and pleading their 1,000 lb. and up cattle into their quarters--it was a very hot day.

The events of the day were many, including a 4-H Steer show; horse working cattle demonstration and a fitting/showing demonstration. The show drew around 400 visitors; including Bob and Cathy Wright, of Mt. Bethel, PA, Dexter breeders. Their support was appreciated during the many inquiries of the little black cow who came to the New Jersey Cattlemen's Show.

#### DEXTER HEIFER FLYS TWA!

John Howard, a new breeder/member from Boulder, CO, purchased a heifer calf from Frank McCabe, Salisbury, CT. With the assist of TWA, John transported the little lass to her new home in CO. John stated that he built a plywood crate for \$67.00. He also stated that the cost to ship calf, plus crate (411 pounds), was \$205.00 from Hartford, CT to Denver, CO. The calf boarded TWA at 9:45 EST, landed in Chicago at 12:00 Noon EST, left Chicago 12:45 EST, and arrived Denver 3:10 EST. John commented that he had considered other modes of transportation, but air was most economical. Evidently, the calf didn't experience jet lag!

#### DEXTERS TO BE EXHIBITED IN COLORADO

Anyone in the Rocky Mountain area who would like to see Dexters on exhibit should attend the Boulder County Fair on August 20. John Howard plans to show two animals.

#### MARKET PLACE

Bulls for sale ----

Dean Fleharty

R.D. #1

Higginsville, MO 04037

Clifford Heistand

209 Union Street

Titusville, PA 16354



## MARKET PLACE

### Bulls for Sale

#1680 Colorado Ulysses - 10/18/74  
 #1844 New Jersey Cripple Dush - 4/19/76  
 #1845 New Jersey Kaiser Ike - 3/29/76  
 \* New Jersey Alligerville - 2/4/77  
 \* New Jersey Shawangunk - 1/30/77

Langdon-Benbyre Dexter  
 Breeders  
 One University Place  
 Hackensack, NJ 07601  
 Phone: 201-487-3700

\*Registration pending

Bull calf - 5/25/77

Robert Wright  
 R.D. #1  
 Allegheny Road  
 Mt. Bethel, PA  
 Phone: 717-397-6803

8 year-old herd bull

Daisy Moore  
 Decorah, IA

## NEW HERD BOOK

By the time that you receive this Bulletin, the new herd book will be just about ready to deliver to Decorah. I suggest that you contact your regional director for particulars. This will eliminate a great deal of work for Mrs. Moore.

## NEW MEMBERS CLASS - SUBSCRIBING MEMBERSHIP

The Board of Directors at the Pittsburgh meeting established a new subscribing membership class. This class entitles the member to receive the Bulletin and any other free publications from the Association. The fee for this class is \$3.00/year. It is open to non-member, non-breeders only. In the event that a non-member acquires stock, this \$3.00 annual fee will be applied towards the membership fee in the year of acquisition of stock. Justification for this is to help defray the increasing costs for this publication.

## TWO HONORED

Frank Wells McCale and Palmer Hull Langdon were nominated by the directors at the annual meeting in Pittsburgh to be the recipients of life memberships for the many-valued contributions to the Association. Both men have served in the capacity of director, as well as president of the Association.

## DO YOU WANT TO HAVE HEIFER CALVES?

Perhaps this article from the New York Times may lend some insight into breeding to produce heifers.....

In the New York Times on September 14, 1974, the British writer Roald Dahl revealed a hidden truth to a largely innocent world that catapulted a farmer he had named Rummins into the tiny ranks of the worldshakers (Copernicus, Newton, Freud).

Dahl, in an article titled "Ah! Sweet Mystery of Life, at Last I've Found Thee", described a technique that Rummins said had enabled him to produce an average of "98 per cent heifers year in year out" from 1915 to 1946.



At his farm on the outskirts of the village of Great Missenden, England, Rummins explained it this way: If you want a heifer, you face your cow into the sun before insemination. In the "sort of swimming race" that ensues, the sun pulls the bull's female sperm to the cow's egg faster than the male sperm--much the way the moon controls the tides.

To produce a bull calf, simply point the cow away from the sun.

Rummins' records for the 32 years preceding 1947, when Dahl learned the secret: "Heifer calves...2516. Bull calves...56."

If there is still a residue of doubt about the validity of this insight--though why there should be, one cannot imagine--Dahl now offers the following (excerpted) letter, lately received, to set it to rest:

H. A. Bradley and Sons  
Huntingfield Farm, Bradenham, Thetford, Norfolk IP25 7QN  
17 November 1976

Dear Mr. Dahl,

Approximately a year ago you wrote an article...called "Ah Sweet Mystery of Life..." concerning the determination of the sex of calves.

At the time, we were desperate because we were spending a lot of money on nominating high premium bulls (artificial insemination) to get good replacement stock for our Dairy Herd, but we were consistently getting a very high proportion of bull calves.

Our inseminator invariably calls at mid-day, and the crush the cows are inseminated in faces north. The cows are therefore facing out of the sun during insemination which, according to your article, would indeed produce bull calves.

Your article did not come to our attention until after we had started our 1976 mating programme. Before we read it, we had already had 6 cows inseminated in the crush facing north. We had also put 17 cows out to run with the bull and I don't expect he minds which way he and the cow are facing.

At this point, when we had a further 24 cows to be inseminated, we read the article, not without a deal of interest and of course skepticism. However, nothing ventured nothing gained, so we decided to turn our crush round so that the cows faced south and into the sun.

Needless to say, this caused great ridicule and merriment among our friends and also with the Artificial Insemination Service, but not with our vet who said that anything was possible.

The results to date from the cows facing south have astonished us and left all our ridiculers speechless. Here are our total 1976 results:

- 6 cows inseminated facing north (before reading article).. 3 bulls, 3 heifers
- 17 cows running with the bull (before reading article).. 11 bulls, 6 heifers
- 24 inseminations facing south.. 4 bulls, 20 heifers!

The interesting thing is of course that had we not had the comparison to make in the same year with the 6 that faced north and the 17 running with the bull, then experts would have been able to say that it was simply a fortunate year. Now they are at a loss for an explanation. In any event, fortunate year or not, your article has certainly bumped up our heifer replacements and for that we thank you.

Yours sincerely, John P. Bradley

American Dexter Cattle Association  
208 S. Walnut Street  
Milford, DE 19963

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MERRIFIELD JOHN S  
RT. 4, BOX 21  
NEWTON KS 67114



July 1977

Talisman Farm  
Box 108  
Comptche, California 95427

Purebred Registered Dexters Available for Purchase

<u>NAME</u>	<u>BORN</u>	<u>ADCA REGISTRATION NO.</u>
<u>Five heifer calves:</u>		
Talisman Temperance	4/11/77	Pending
Talisman Tiffany	4/14/77	Pending
Talisman Tallulah	4/22/77	Pending
Talisman Timber Girl	5/13/77	Pending
Talisman Touthay	5/19/77	Pending

Available August at \$500.00

<u>One yearling heifer:</u>		
Talisman Alfreda	6/2/76	1812

Available Bred September/October \$800.00

<u>One bull:</u>		
TAM Peerless Fortune ("Herschel")	4/1/74	1657

So far has produced 8 heifers out of 9 calves.  
Asking \$750.00

All prices F.O.B. Comptche, California. Transportation for reasonable distances can be provided on terms to be arranged.

Reply to Box 108, Comptche, California 95427  
or telephone (707) 937-0301 Fridays through  
Mondays only.

John Hays  
Regional Director ADCA

FOR SALE:

Two Cows	Registered
One Bull	Registered
Two Bull Calves	Recently born - registration pending

Will sell entire herd for \$2,000.00

Contact: Raymond Jhadis  
No. Edgecomb,  
Maine 04556

