

The Bulletin

American Dexter Cattle Association

SPRING 1987

Lois Johnson, Editor

4092 Broadview Rd, Richfield, OH 44286

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Dea Rou Cor	esident: in Fleharty ite 1, Box 378 incordia, MO 6402 6) 463-7704	(405) 759-3593	Acting Sec/Treas: Rosemary Fleharty Route 1, Box 378 Concordia, MO 64020 (816) 463-7704 L DIRECTORS	Immediate Past Pres: James G Johnson 4092 Broadview Rd Richfield, OH 44286 (216) 659-4861				
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#6	Southeast	Va, N Car, S Car, Ga, Fla, Tenn (373-9) & (384-5). Director: Rex Kramer, Beerex Farm, P O Box 906, Jupiter, FL 33468 Phone: (305) 747-4509						
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#11	Canadian	R R #1 Pc	nada ry, C/O Cranworth Farr ortland, Ontario, Canada 513) 272-2561	The state of the s				

Note: Division of states is indicated by first 3 digits of zip code.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The American Minor Breeds Conservancy has put out an invitation to all minor breeds people to participate in a show and sale. The show will be September 20-26 at St. Joseph County Grange Fair in Centreville, Michigan and will conclude with a sale. The show is a week-long show and for many of us it means working out plans to share transportation costs and make arrangements to watch each other's cattle for part of that week. Lets all give some serious thought to this first ever North American Dexter Cattle Show & Sale.

For a premium catalog you can write: St Joseph County Grange Fair P O Box 578
Centreville, MI 49032

Don Bixby is the AMBC show and sale coordinator: 620 Butternut Drive, Holland, MI, 49423. Phone: Day - (616) 399-2540 Evenings - (616) 399-4934.

I have asked the Standards Committee to go back to work - not so much to change standards, but to collect information so that our standards will be based on facts. There is no way to accumulate the facts but from you. So, I have a big request to make of you. Can you measure your cows at the front shoulder - don't be ashamed if some of your cows are taller than you thought they were - we've got some tall ones too. We need to know if you think the cow is a short leg or longer legged Dexter and how old they are. We need several hundred measurements. Then, we need several herds who can measure their calves over the next three years to determine what the normal growth pattern is for a Dexter of both the short-legged variety and the taller ones.

Some of you may want to check with your Extension Service about getting involved in an official weighing and measuring program that is offered through a Beef Improvement Program - we have such a program here in Missouri.

Any of you that can send measurements, please send them to me at the following address:

Route 1, Box 378

Concordia, MO 64020

I will get these compiled and print them in a future bulletin for everyone's information. Thanks for your help.

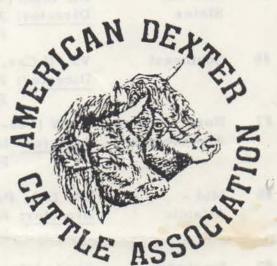
Dean Fleharty, President

NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY

To the right is the new logo which has been submitted to me. I think it is wonderful. Please let me have your comments.

We have extra copies of the blue herd books, 1981-2, available for sale at \$2.00 each.

We are running short of the red herd books, 1983-4. If there is a family that gets more than one copy, would they consider returning any that might be extra? We will need more, but may not have enough need to re-print.



Loose Applications for Registration are available free. We do have the padded forms available at \$3.50 each. These have the permanent tab for the owner's information. Each pad contains 24 forms.

The tattoo letter for 1987 is "W".

Please make checks for any items you order payable to American Dexter Cattle Association and mail to me at the address shown at the top of page 1.

Please be sure your 1987 Association dues are paid - if not, you will be receiving a card in the mail. We are trying to get an up-to-date list of owners and members, so your help is greatly appreciated.

Notes from the Secretary - continued.

On transferring animals to new owners, if the seller could take care of sending the papers to me with the proper payment, it would cut down on the amount of correspondence I need to make with new owners. Many times animals are sold and only the white application for registration form is given to the new owner, and the new owner is not aware that the cost for getting an animal transferred that is not registered is \$20 -- \$10 for registering and \$10 for transferring.

All papers that I receive that are transferred are sent directly to the new owner unless indicated otherwise. Each new owner is sent a packet of information on the Association, membership information, services available to members, etc.

Please try to register your animals by two years of age as our rulings on ages are going to have to be enforced:

Under 1 year of age	\$10.00
1 to 2 years of age	25.00
Over 2 years of age	50.00

If anyone has any suggestions on how I can better serve you during this interim, please let me know. Your registration and transfer fees pay for a service, and we are trying to provide you with this service.

If anyone would be interested in serving in the position of Registrar and/or Secretary/ Treasurer, please send a short resume' to the attention of Dean Fleharty, ADCA, Route l Box 378, Concordia, Missouri 64020. The Board of Directors will be determining how to fill these positions at the July Annual Board Meeting. The deadline for applications is June 24th.

Rosemary Fleharty, Acting Secretary

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The letter from Rudy Gilster which appeared in the last issue of the Bulletin has prompted two letters from other members on the subject of Dexter sizes:

From Don Piehota, Vice President, Byars, OK:

Regarding Rudy Gilster's letter on very large Dexters, it is my understanding that some of the newer ADCA members wonder how there could be tall, 1200 to 1500 lb Dexters without crossbreeding or other chicanery. Several years back our oldest daughter did a paper for her college biology class on cattle size. I got involved and learned that where some species tend to be naturally smalland need human intervention to develop large size, cattle are very large in their wild state and will become small only with man's intervention.

Before you decide this is ridiculous because large draft horses came from small wild ancestors, etc., etc., just consider who were the wild ancestors of today's cattle - - the European Auroch standing 6 feet tall at the shoulder. Today there are still wild cattle in southeast Asia and the bulls weigh over a ton. Feral cattle that ram wild such as the American Longhorn, the British Park Cattle, etc. were from the smallish domestic stock, and within several generations they developed great height as they reverted to the appearance and size of their wild ancestors.

As archeologists unearthed ancient cities and towns, they found rubbish that dontained the cannon bones of domesticated full grown cattle. These are an accurate determiner of cattle height. An archeologist named Bokonyi noticed that early in the history of man's domestication of cattle (about 6000 years ago) there were very long cannon bones in these animals, meaning they were close to 6 feet tall. As domestication continued over the centuries, cannon bones of adult animals became shorter. What happened? It seems most likely that huge 2500 lb bulls about 6 feet tall were undesirable to early herdsmen who handled the stock with ropes, and with no domesticated horse to rope from. So for many millenia, cattlemen avoided large size; however, the potential for large size remains ready to come out if mankind allows it (even in Dexters).

This is what recently happened in the Dexter breed. About twenty years ago, a recently deceased Dexter breeder gave an assortment of cows and one of his larger bulls - - - -

Don Piehota's letter - continued

Julius Jughead Jackson - to Texas A & M as a tax write-off. Texas A & M took the half-dozen or so animals and put them in a pasture of several hundreds of acres. Texas A & M let nature take its course, so the largest bulls got to breed. Therefore more large bull calves started to appear and after about twelve years the largest bull calves of these large bull calves were breeding to larger heifers and cows. When Texas A & M sold out, they sold some of the largest Dexter cattle in the world.

What does this mean to Dexter breeders? It means that it is a lot easier to breed for 6-foot-tall cattle, since Mother Nature is helping you; and conversely it is a lot harder to breed for 3-foot-tall cattle since you work against the species' natural tendency. It means that if a breeder wants to breed for animals 36 to 42 inches in height, he must view any mature Dexter bull 44 inches tall or taller as a step backward for his herd and for the Dexter breed. It means that some day, hopefully soon, Dexter breeders will "bite the bullet" and not allow any bull to be registered that will exceed 44" in height.

Don Piehota, Vice-President, ADCA

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The second letter is from Joseph Boyko of Rogue River, Oregon:

I would like to respond to Rudy Gilster's letter in the Winter 86/87 Bulletin, criticizing some of the ADCA practices. I too have been hurt by the lack of a current herd book as he mentioned, and the size puzzle of what a Dexter should be has caused me some problems. I became interested in Dexters because of their being hardy, small and efficient. When I saw the cow which I was to buy, I liked her, but I was thrown for a loop when she was much taller than the rest of the herd. I wondered if she was a freak at 46 inches at the withers. Visitors who have come to see my cow are surprised at my cow's height as they are expecting shorter cattle. It wasn't until finally I learned that Dexters come in two "models" that I began to understand the breed.

As you can see, I agree in some ways with Mr Gilster that a change is definitely needed in the Standards or at least an explanation that Dexters do come in two models (as Mr John Hays stated in his speech given in Seattle in September, 1986): Kerry type and so-called true Dexter. I do not agree with Mr Gilster that we grade our cattle ABC. This would degrade tall Dexters. I like Kerry type Dexters and I'm not interested in dwarfy, miniature or stumpy cattle. I do not think it is in the Association's best interest to impose a standard or type of Dexter, but rather accommodate the two types that exist. Folks that like some leg length are made to feel weird and like outcasts. We should be saving a rare breed that exists in its two versions - not setting trendy fashions or chasing after some vogue, perfect Dexter.

I would like to see pedigrees labeled KT for Kerry Type, long legged Dexters; MED for medium size; and SM for small very short-legged Dexters. The categories would have appropriate measurements for a range of "so many" inches each. This way people who buy a mature animal can choose what type of Dexter they want to buy. There should be two standards in the herd book - one for Kerry type and one for small Dexters. Kerry type Dexters are still very small cattle and have very practical advantages. But I would not want to impose my standards on others who love the real short Dexter.

If the two Dexter types are explained in the herd book, and we understand each other and co-exist, there is a bright future.... a future without the confusion that I've encountered, and an Association that helps all Dexter enthusiasts.

Joseph Boyko, Rogue River, Oregon

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I would say these two gentlemen have just about said it all! Thank you both for taking your valuable time to share your experience in the Dexter world.

The Editor

WEEP THIS SHEET

as your PROGRAM AND ITINERARY

Important phone numbers:

Dean Fleharty, ADCA President: (816) 463-7704

Don Piehota, ADCA Vice-Pres.: (405) 759-3593

Dan Harrell, ADCA Dir. Reg. 4: (512) 285-4782

David Archer, ADCA Member: (405) 391-3057

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1987

AMERICAN DEXTER CATTLE ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting

July 10, 11 & 12

"LOOKING TO THE FUTURE"

Ramada Inn Airport South

6800 I-35 South (Junction I-55 & 240 Bypass)

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73149

Phone: 1-800-2-RAMADA for Reservations

Registration Fee:

\$15.00 per person. (Includes Saturday lunch & banquet.)

Advanced Registration -

send check to: Don Piehota Rt 1, Box 118 Byars, OK 74831

Late Registration -

Saturday 8-8:30 a.m.

Motel Registration -

On your Own. \$33.00 + tax, single or double.

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"LOOKING TO THE FUTURE"

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out literature and also Sept.

HERE CUT Theme: 1 * Check in Ramada Inn Friday Evening week-end GUID! Hospitality Room July 10, 1987 General Meeting Saturday Morning TOUR * * * July 11, 1987 Lunch, Ramada Inn or 3rd Bethel Saturday Afternoon EETING * * * * Board bus for tour sponsored Visit Piehota farm and herd Z * Visit Archer farm and herd YOUR Return to Ramada Inn for the Banquet Saturday Evening Featured Speaker, Elizabeth Henson, Exec. Dir. American Minor

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SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES ADCA - 1987 - ANNUAL MEETING "LOOKING TO THE FUTURE"

7 p. m.

9 a.m.

12 Noon

1 p. m.

Amarillo

2 p. m.

3:30 p.m.

5 p. m.

7 p. m.

I-35

I-35

Purcell

8 a.m.

9 a. m.

Breeds Conservancy. Sunday Morning

July 12, 1987

Breakfast with Directors (on your own)

Board of Directors

Meeting

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FOR SALE * * * FOR SALE * * * FOR SALE * * * FOR SALE
ARIZONA
                                    MISSOURI
  #2601 3 yrs May Lark
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  #2639 3 yrs Sonoita Sunrise
                                  de
                                       standing Dexters. Reducing the size
  #2801 2 yrs Moira Gail
                                       of our herd. Delivery can be arranged.
                                  ste
  #2903 2 yrs Bridgett Brae
                                  *
                                     Prices starting at $450.00
  #2951 2 yrs Kiernan Nieve
                                  of.
                                            Dan R Randall
All of above sired by Peerless Colorado,
                                            Rt 1, Box 67
#1871. $350.00 each and up.
                                            Pilot Grove, MO 65276
                                  sk:
        Katy G Ranch
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       PO Box 111
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                                  ole:
                                    NEW YORK
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                                       For Sale or Trade:
Bull calf born Jan 1, 1987.
IOWA
                                  de
                                         Walt Jilson
  Females and males of all ages.
                                  str
                                        Box 15
       Michael Moore
                                  ste.
                                            Lowman, NY 14861
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       Decorah, IA 52101
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INDIANA
                                       Cows, bulls, calves - all ages. This
  Young Dexter bulls and heifers.
                                       year's calves sired by Brendan o'
        Mt Carmel Acres Sheep & Cattle *
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MINNESOTA
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                                  St.
                                            Philip Martz, Sr
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                                  de
                                            R D 4, Box 162
        Paris, MO 65275
                                  *
                                             Berlin, PA 15530
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        THE BOOKSHELF
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                                  3/5
   $7.95 per copy plus $1.55 postage
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  and handling.
                                       DOB: 3/17/86
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        Rosemary Rieman, Acting Sec.
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        Concordia, MO 64020
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                                  2/4
                                            (608) 981-2289
                                 Editor's Note - Please let me know if you want your ads run again. Some have done so.
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Deadline for material for Summer Bulletin is August 1,1987.

DEXTER SEMEN AVAILABLE FOR A. I.

Collected From: ** Collected From: Jamie O'Callen #1949 Marnell's Black Magic #1804 James G Johnson Thomas's Dexters 4092 Broadview Rd Clarno Rt #2 Fossil, OR 97830 Richfield, OH 44286 ** (216) 659-4861 (503) 763-4606 * Collected From: Aldebran Priapus #2544 水水 Collected From: ** Yom Kippur of Clovebrook #1765 All British imported bull. ste ste Medium sized bull. Property of Eric Lawlor Jan Van Heerden Order from: 3/4 3/4 for Michigan Livestock Service ** Mrs Mabel S Ingalls 110 N Main St P O Box 91 Ovid, MI 48866 Salisbury Mills, NY 12577 Price - \$15.00 straw + shipping and handling. Semen guaranteed - money de de (914) 496-3826 refunded if bulldog calf results. Collected From: ALL SEMEN listed here for sale is Rafter Dee Finn Bennach #2779

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ping, etc.

Dexter

Cattle

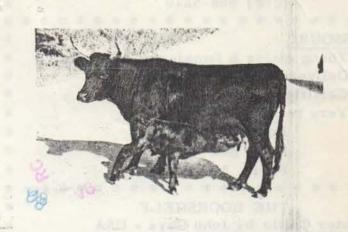
DOB 4/17/84

Rt 1, Box 268

Fair Grove, MO 65648

D L DeLane

American Dexter Cattle Association Lois Johnson, Editor Sp 87 4092 Broadview Rd Richfield, OH 44286



owned by the individual breeders as

for further details as to costs, ship-

shown. Please contact them directly





FIRST CLASS

John S Merrifield (M) 1 Rt #4, Box 21 Newton, KS 67114