

The Dexter Bulletin

Volume 36 - No. 3

May / June, 1996

Dexter Beef Production in Argentina by Horacio M. Echevarria

I am trying to produce a small cow with lots of milk to use it as an F1 cow on a beef production project. We are also looking into some other breeds. It will be an interesting study as most of the breeds are going wild on their size.

I have been able to find a small herd of purebred Dexter. They belong to a lady that has 14 cows with 14 calves and two bulls.

It was interesting to speak to the foreman. He said those little cows never get sick, the cows need no help at calving, they don't get scab, nor pink eye. This man has been on that farm for 32 years and he compares the Dexter with Angus which is the rest of the farm. This farm is close to Buenos Aires.

There may be some more Dexters north of Buenos Aires. I am sending a few pictures of the cattle. They are 40" at the shoulder, very strong, and very lively. Those animals have never been on feed. They graze 365 days of the year. They get no hay and they have never been inside a barn.

This is God's cattle paradise. The place where the cattle are is 60 miles south of Buenos Aires. The land is flat, the soil is a clay loam, the rainfall 36", and the temperature will range from 40° to 95° Fahrenheit. They will have 300 days free of frost and they never get snow.

Now the other side of the coin - the price of cattle is low. The best steers on the market will bring 25¢ a pound live weight. Some years it went as low as 10¢. Machinery, tractors, are more expensive than yours, so we do a lot of riding on the pastures, using horses which are cheaper.

All our pastures are fenced with a 7

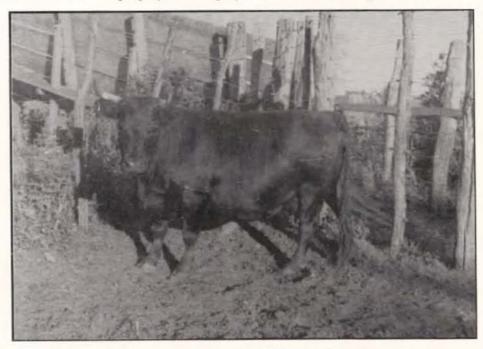
wire fence. We have very good wood, hard wood. At my farm there are fence poles that have been on the ground for over 100 years. You could not drive a nail into this type of wood. The wood is so heavy that it does not float in the water. When the railway belonged to the British, this type of wood was used to make sleepers. Now we buy those sleepers that were on the ground 120 years and use them for fencing. We are now using a lot of electric fence and a lot of people have rotational grazing on their farms using electric fence. It works very well.

Now going back to my idea of developing a small cow with plenty of milk. I could buy Jersey x Angus heifers at a very good price and then breed those heifers to a Dexter bull, and start with the progeny. Culling

everything that is not strong or comes up to measurement. I could very easily get 400 or 500 top Jersey x Angus heifers at weaning time, then grow them up and A.I. them to some nice Dexter bull. From then on it will be a matter of judgment, picking the best progeny. I have a great deal of experience with this since I have done it with sheep and other animals, always with a great deal of success.

More size makes more requirements and more requirements means less fertility and a lot of money on winter feed. We feel that a smaller cow with less requirements and good milk production will make a much more economical idea.

Could it be possible to get semen from a bull free of the bulldog gene and with records on milk production?



Six year old Dexter cow, courtesy of Horacio M. Echevarria

American Dexter Cattle Association

Rt. 1, Box 378 Concordia, MO 64082

1995 - 1996 Officers

President		L'ice President	Secretary-Treasurer	
703 Ft.	S. "Shep" Springer 8 Inverness Rd. Collins, CO 80524 70) 484-2711	James Johnson 4092 Broadview Rd. Richfield, OH 44286 (216) 659-4861	Rosemary Fleharty Rt. 1, Box 378 Concordia, MO 64020 (816) 463-7704 Available after 5:30 PM CST and weekends	
Region 1	Missouri and Illinoi	Regional Directors		
Region 1		toute 2, Box 148, Lexington, IL 61753	(309) 365-5611	
Region 2	Oregon and Idaho John P. Wolf, 14437	Evans Valley Rd., Silverton, OR 9738	1 (503) 873-6034	
Region 3	Washington, Hawaii Fred Chesterley, 417	i, and Alaska 78 West Rd., Blaine, WA 98230	(360) 332-8579	
Region 4		S. Dakota, N. Dakota, Montana, Wyom Jesup St., Indianola, IA 50125	ing, and Iowa (515) 961- 6772	
Region 5	Canada Carol Davidson, Bri	ght Meadows, RR 1, Ladysmith, BC VO	R 2EO (604) 245-4046	
Region 6	Kansas, Oklahoma, Marvin Johnson, P.O.	and Texas D. Box 441, Elkhart, KS 67950	(405) 696-4836	
Region 7	Indiana, Kentucky, a June Osters, 8446 Sl	and Ohio nepherd Road, Macedonia, OH 44056	(216) 467-0832	
Region 8		Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, N. Carolina, S. Carolina, and Tennessee Jim Moody, 555 B N 15 Street, Immokalee, FL 33934 (813) 657-3464		
Region 9		Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico Berry Road, Wilton, CA 95693	(916) 687-7986	
Region 10	Pennsylvania, W. Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, and Deleware Phillip R. Martz Sr., RD4, Box 162, Berlin, PA 15530		Columbia, and Deleware (814) 267-5052	
Region 11	그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그 그	New Jersey and New York Kathleen Smith, RD3, Box 107A, Ft. Plain, NY 13339		
Region 12	Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Vermont Amy Record, HCR BOX 23, Lyme, NH 03768		Island, and Vermont (603) 795-2606	
Region 13	Michigan, Minnesota James Nerenhausen,	a, and Wisconsin 3972 Fond du Lac Rd., Box 2288, Oshk	osh, WI (414) 233-3268	

From the President

Spring seems to be slow in arriving in our area this year. It is much colder than usual here this time of the year. We have had adequate moisture here and have had a much larger snowpack in the mountains. Irrigation water will be plentiful but if it turns hot and all the snow melts fast we will be in for serious flooding.

We are nearing our Annual General Meeting in Missouri June 7, 8, &9. There have been many suggestions for agenda items. I am sure that there will be more. Due to both the show and sale we will be pressed for time. It will be necessary that we stay with the business at hand. Please get your items for the agenda to me by May 10th so that the Board members can have time to consider these items before the meeting. Let's try to make this a productive and cooperative effort.

I am sure there is much concern about the "Mad Cow Disease". I have been contacted by several members with many views and opinions. I am asking the Center for Disease Control and the U.S.D.A. for their best informed opinions. I think that is the best route to follow. It is the surest source of factual information. As you know it is of concern to all livestock breeders and raisers, not just Dexter owners. It seems there is less concern by people in the livestock health industry than it is to those in the media.

Let's make this Annual General Meeting one of the best. The Officers and the Board of Directors really hope to see you there.

R.S. "Shep" Springer

Did you know? The average birthweight of a calf is 7% of the mother!

.......

1996 ADCA National Meeting **Show and Sale**

~******************* Don't forget - the 1996 American Dexter Cattle Association Annual Meeting will be held June 7 - 9, 1996, at Higginsville, Missouri (just 50 miles East of the Kansas City metropolitan area) at the Best Western Camelot Inn (junction of I-70 and Highway 13). The show will be located just 5 miles off I -70 and on Highway 13.

The plans for the show and sale are moving right along-we may have over 25 head of cattle for the show. The sale will have a good mixture-all three colors, black, dun and red; short and non-short and some really nice heifers. If you are interested in increasing your herd size or starting a good herd, now may be your best chance to buy a really nice heifer or bull-and you will get the added benefit of an animal that is already halter broken.

On Friday evening we will have a dress rehearsal for the show. We will hold a picnic for all members that evening in the park across the street from the show arena. On Saturday morning we will have breakfast at the motel followed by our annual meeting. After lunch we will have our show. On Saturday evening we will have a banquet at the motel with an outstanding speaker. Your \$30 registration fee covers all four meals.

The sale of animals will take place on Sunday afternoon. In addition, a few members are donating some straws of semen that will be sold to help support the show and sale. Be sure and ask for a catalog-we hope to get them out a couple of weeks before the show. If you would like a copy of the catalog, just call and leave your name and address on the answering machine. We will mail one out to you.

If you still need travel assistance, check with Ted at All About Travel—he has an answering machine if he is not there—he will call you back.

His number is (800) 544-3019. The names and phone numbers of the motels were in the last Bulletin. If you didn't get a copy and need more information, give us a call.

Be sure and send in your registration fee-we need to plan our meals and want to make sure you are included. Come and have a good time—our caterer will be preparing Dexter beef for two meals.

From the Editor

Please note that the cow from Argentina on the cover has but one horn which perhaps will satisfy both our horned and polled breeders.

Like our Dexter cattle, every Bulletin has its own personality. The achondroplasia projects that are going on around the world make this a more serious issue but certainly everyone should agree that these projects are a positive for the breed.

On-line news was of two different Dexter owners seeking information on showing and overcoming the red tape the breed sometimes encounters. cattleman was inquiring about the possibilities of Dexters an organic/natural beef producer. If anyone has information about these subjects they'd like to share, the Bulletin provides a forum for the helpful exchange of experiences to the benefit of both members and prospective Promotion is internal as members. much as external for any breed.

If you've never been to the AGM I encourage you to do so. It's a full weekend but an experience that you'll enjoy and always remember. hoping that everyone that's bringing cattle to the show and sale will be rewarded for their positive contribution to the Association. See you there!

Richard Henry

Color Genetics and Dexters

by Carol Davidson, Regional Director for Canada

It is certainly true that the more advanced we become, the more complex the rules become. This holds true in the issue of color.

Many English breeders swear there was no such color as "dun" until the Woodmagic duns, and that dun is not a true Dexter color. I like to point out to them that we had dun Dexters, but no true reds long before any Woodmagic animals ever set foot on this continent. We don't out cross, so where did our duns come from? What happened to the red gene present in our original imports back in 1915?

I know that many ADCA members register their non-black animals as red, and I also know that many of those reds are actually dun. Both red and dun come in various diluted shades. Because it is sometimes difficult to distinguish between these shades, mislabeling the color has been an easy mistake.

Reds come in a variety of tones, from a faded browny orange via a true carrot orange into auburn/dark conker chestnut. In some reds, attributed to excess testosterone, head and legs can be almost black. Red Angus and Hereford are examples of red.

Duns also come in a variety of tones, from a light buckskin or raw peanut color, through a sort of taupe strawberry blonde to dark sepia brown. I'm not aware of duns ever developing extra-dark faces and legs as do the reds, although dun bulls are often the dark end of the scale. It is the taupe strawberry blonde form of dun which is usually confused with red, even for those who can truly tell the colors apart. Highland and Galloway are examples of dun.

The best way of defining the red/dun colors is to use horse language regarding the main body color (not mane and tail, legs or dorsal stripes): reds equate to sorrel/chestnut through to bay (with or without black points);

duns equate to buckskin through to liver chestnut.

There used to be hard and fast rules that one could use to decide what was what, but as more red x dun matings occurred, we found that our perspective was too narrow.

An English Dexter breeder, ex-DCS Council member and amateur geneticist insisted that red was red, dun was vellow, and nowhere the twain would meet. Another experienced professor is of the opinion that the progression is from white to red to black to dun In 1987, any and everyone in England would tell you as absolute fact that red x dun ALWAYS produced black. It was even written up in their Bulletin as fact. In 1988 in England, I saw a photo of a group of dun heifers with one bright red heifer among them. She was from a dun cow by a red bull. A little later, I saw in the Herd Book where owners of another dun cow had used the same red bull. and the resulting heifer was red, also, not black or dun. I pointed this out, and pretty soon the rules had changed to 'rare, but possible' for red from a red x dun mating.

Closer to home. Dexter breeders in both Canada and the U.S. were using a dilute red bull on their cows, some of which carried dun genes. Our first anomaly was a true, bright red bull calf by this dilute red bull out of a black Woodmagic cow with dun genes. Other colored calves soon followed. To confuse the issue, a breeder using dun Woodmagic animals produced a darker dun which he called dark red. This spawned a whole group of 'dark red' animals, some of which were collected Red became 'hot', and everyone who had a non-black animal started calling it red, regardless of its genetic makeup.

Some thought that horn color was an indicator, but this was just a case of lack of exposure to a large enough sample of animals. Some thought that hoof color was an indicator, but it turned out that this couldn't be counted on, either

One sure test which continued to hold true was nose color: pink, pink with black spots, and black indicated red; taupe indicated dun. Of course, you guessed it: this now no longer holds true, either. We have one case of a red heifer with a taupe nose. It seems that as we create more combinations, our permutations increase in a standard mathematical progression.

We still have a lot to learn about the genetics of color. It is not as simple a subject as first appeared. There is no doubt that red and dun are different, but just how different is still open to conjecture. What we need is a means of defining this difference in a way that everyone can understand, if breeders aren't able to get first hand experience personally.

THE DYING CALF

in winter when ice sheathes the living and the not living muting the difference

when death follows you a pale cumulus of fog crunching through

the crystalline air like hungry bees as pure and as holy as an empty heart

and life is the next ragged breath a slowly twitching leg a clouding eye

when a limp sun erases the difference between the shadowed and the not shadowed

and a carnal sky devours the ground as a twitching leg stops and the next breath

doesn't come how do you tell the difference between the good and the ungood

Submitted by Jack Goodman

The Dexter Bulletin

Dexters, Ideal For The Small Farm

by Paul Anderson, Director For Region Four

A recent article in the Dexter magazine stated that there are basically two reasons for owning Dexter cattle. One is to support the preservation of a minor breed and the other is to be a breeder of cattle to compete with and sell to other breeders. I agree that these are both valid reasons for owning and breeding Dexter cattle, but I think there is a third valid reason for breeding Dexters.

My own entry into the Dexter cattle business came partly because I am a supporter of minor breeds, partly because a prominent member of the Dexter cattle organization was able to sell me on the idea and to arrange a deal that I could afford, and partly because what I had read and seen of these cattle made me believe that they would be ideal for my small farm. The reason I still own and breed Dexters is because they are ideal for my small farm and that is the third reason for owning Dexters and, I believe, the best reason.

My Dexters are small enough to raise on a few acres, big enough to supply meat for my table, docile enough to handle without too many problems, good enough milkers to supply all the milk we would ever need if we milked one or two, hardy enough to survive outside on grass hay and a little grain through a winter that got to 30 below this year, generally need little or no assistance at calving time, eat rough bottom land pasture with lots of brush and trees all summer while raising their calves, come when I call them, chase any dogs or coyotes that get close to them, have meat that people I have sold to have told me is as good as any they have eaten, and make me a little money when I sell a heifer or bred cow or market a steer direct.

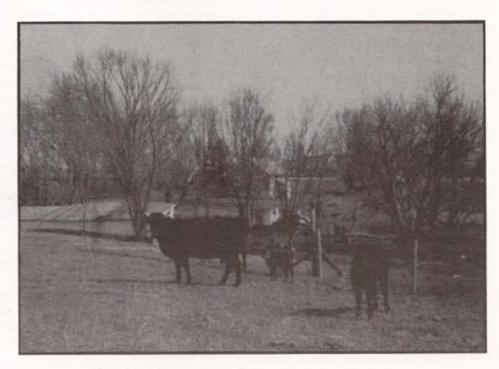
I am not as concerned about the exact height or weight of my Dexters,

whether they are dun or black, have horns or don't as I am about how well they survive on what I have to feed them, if they have calves that survive without help from me, if the calves have good dispositions conformation and grow well, if the meat tastes good without putting a lot of feed into them, if I don't have to fill them full of chemicals to survive and stay healthy, and if I can go out and be around them and enjoy looking at them and being with them. Those things are what Dexters were originally bred for years ago and why I still like to keep them around today.

I know that Dexters have certain problems, as do all breeds. I agree that we should breed responsibly to minimize bulldog calves, bad udders, calving problems, or just generally poor cows as should any responsible breeder of any animal. But I think that before we spend too much time breeding for a certain number of inches or color or horns or whatever, we should remember what made this a

viable breed in the first place.

My feeling is that one of these days the market for cows that are so many inches or have the right color or kind of horns will be saturated and then we will be forced to compete in the marketplace of good doing cows for the small farm or acreage, which gets back to what the original Dexters were bred for. I think one or more writers have said we couldn't compete with the big breeds and I have heard others say we don't do that well in the exotic market, either. Yet, everything I have read and heard about the farm population says that the biggest increase in farms is coming in the number of small farms with parttime farmers. If we continue to breed a sound, useful, small cow with a good carcass and a good supplier of milk that can survive and prosper in a low tech farming system, that looks good and is a pleasure to have around, and if we can keep that cow affordable, I think we will have a market for a long time to come. If we are just breeding novelty cows, sooner or later the novelty wears off. •



Connie and calves at Paul Anderson's farm in Iowa

The World of Dexters



Care Mars Cha

The following is reproduced with permission from the Australasian Dexter Association's Magazine, Winter Edition, 1995.

ACHONDROPLASIA WHY ALL THE FUSS - WHY SHOULD WE BOTHER?

There are many reasons why we should bother and I am yet to find a single reason why we should not.

At present, there is a lot of emotional discussion over achondroplasia. Discussion is good and should be encouraged, because through informed discussion we should all benefit.

I would like to mention just a few of the reasons why I feel we should bother about achondroplasia. The Anchondroplasia Gene (bulldog) has been recognised as a genetic defect in Dexters as far back as records go.

FINANCIAL

I can only speak from my own point of view, but I would find the loss of a breeding cow, whether it be a Grade animal or a purebred, a substantial financial loss as well as totally disrupting my breeding plan.

To me, the possibility of being able to mate any two animals without the risk (ranging from abortion of the calf through to the death of the cow) associated with the achondroplasic gene would be great, however, without the marker for the gene or some other means of scientifically identifying a carrier, I am relying on somebody's interpretation as to whether an animal is a carrier or not, especially when I am artificially inseminating my animal.

ADA MEMBERSHIP OBLIGATIONS

As a member of the Australasian Dexter Association I am bound by its Constitution and By-laws and in the Constitution we have a Code of Ethics and in clause 7.6 it clearly states "Members will keep on the alert for and work to eradicate or control inherited

problems or other conditions inimical to the breed." Further Clause 7.2 states "Members will not neglect or mistreat their animal(s) but on the contrary at all times safeguard and further its/their well-being." Again we need a scientific marker for positive identification of carriers.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE ADA

The ADA has a responsibility under the objects of the Association to "maintain the purity and improve the breed of Dexter cattle;" therefore it is the responsibility of the ADA to actively promote research and assist other Dexter Associations in their areas of research into this genetic defect.

I believe the ADA in its establishment of the Achondroplasia Project Team is starting to meet its responsibilities to its members and to the breed and this, together with the Council's resolution to encourage members to report the occurrence of any bulldog calf and the mating which produced it to the Executive Officer, is, I feel a positive step forward.

Just because a particular mating has resulted in the production of a bulldog calf does not mean that you should not use these animals, it simply means that the particular combination should be avoided.

It has been known as far back as records go in association with Dexters that certain combinations of animals will produce a bulldog calf and until such time as the 'marker' can be found, the only certain way of identifying carriers is to be advised of the occurrence of bulldogs.

This reporting has been done in England over many years and they are now at the point, thanks to the reporting of the information, that they are able to issue a guarantee on the AI sires designated as non carriers by the Society.

I am looking forward to the day when the Australasian Dexter Association will be able to do the same. Just remember the old rule - DON'T MATE SHORT CANON BONE (short leg) TO SHORT CANON BONE (short leg) as this combination is most likely to produce bulldog.

I would like to point out that other breeds also have an achondroplastic problem (as well as other genetic defects) but these responsible associations have taken steps to address the problem. If the Dexter Association is ever to be taken seriously it must act responsibly and address the achondroplasia problem.

Dick Bird, President, ADA

United Hingdom

Mad Cow Disease (BSE)

The (British) Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Foods publishes an up-to-date list of cattle, by breed and by crossbreed, indicating the number of cases for each breed and crossbreed combination.

BSE has not been found in any Dexter. Dexters, Kerrys, Shetland, Moile and Vagnol are recognized as the only cattle breeds in Britain free of BSE.

Does the risk still exist? Mike Painter, Consultant in Communicable Disease Control, Manchester and member of the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee (SEAC) answered:

"In 1989 a ban was put on CNS, tonsils and spleen from cattle aged over 6 months and thymus, intestines and vertebral columns of cattle of any age from entering the human or animal food chain (this is the Specified Bovine Offals ban or SBO).

Last year the ban was extended to meat that had been mechanically recovered from vertebrae.

Taking this, plus negative transmission studies from muscle, into account it is fair to say that the risk from eating beef in 1996 has to be many orders of magnitude less than it was pre-1989. Whether that now equates to zereo risk is impossible to say but it is enough for me not to stop eating beef."

The Dexter Bulletin Page 7

Mapping the Locus responsible for Achondroplasia in Dexter Cattle A Collaborative Project between Roslin Institute and

The Dexter Cattle Society

Objectives.

The scientific objective of the work is ultimately to discover the genetic lesion that results in the achondroplastic dwarf phenotype, and to use this knowledge to understand the role of the gene in normal development and the reason for the abnormal phenotype.

Initially the project will uncover genetic markers that will be of value in the identification of carriers of the mutation as a tool for the management of Dexter Breeding.

The project can be broken down into several distinct phases, with progress from one phase to the next largely dependent on funding.

 Identification of the chromosomal region containing the gene responsible for achondroplasia.

- Derivation of closely linked markers, that will serve as a starting point for the identification of the gene and which could be used for screening Dexter cattle for carriers.
- Identification of responsible gene.
 - 4. Identification of the lesion.

Results from the work above will be of direct interest to Dexter Breeders. Subsequent work will address the biology of the mutation, tissue distribution of expression, function of protein and reason for malfunction of the mutant protein, resulting in abnormal development.

Genome Mapping

The identification of the chromosomal location and linked markers will follow conventional and well established techniques. The map that we are creating of the Bovine Genome is the topic of a large international collaboration involving over 40 laboratories worldwide.

The first requirement is for highly polymorphic DNA markers, that is, sites on the genome that can be readily identified and have large numbers of

alleles. The importance of this is that in the majority of matings such markers will be heterozygous and thus the origin of the particular allele, from dam or sire, can be unequivocally determined. We are initially aiming to produce sufficient markers of this type to cover the genome evenly with markers at 20cM intervals. This density of markers means that adjacent markers become separated recombination roughly once in every five matings. This is the lowest density at which one can hope to identify loci controlling distinctive phenotypes, such as achondroplasia.

The relationship between the markers is determined by analysing their segregation in full-sib families. We have set up an international reference panel for this work, which is made up of 15 families of grandparents, parents and 8-20 full brothers. Markers that are close together on a chromosome will become separated by recombination less often than markers further apart, whilst markers on different chromosomes will segregate randomly.

In this way two primary genomic maps have been made and published one by the international group and one by the USDA (Barendse et al 1994, Bishop et al 1994). These maps are now being combined. The present position is that there are 320 markers mapped, 86 of these are in genes, the remainder are in anonymous DNA between the genes. This gives a map with the target 20cM resolution covering about 95% of the genome.

We are therefore well placed to identify markers loosely linked to genes controlling distinctive monogenic traits, for example markers for the polled phenotype have located the polled gene on chromosome 1. For a single gene defect which controls a distinctive phenotype, such as achondroplasia, we would predict a

very high chance of identifying the chromosomal location of the gene, without any prior knowledge.

Published information

Recently the location of a gene responsible for achondroplasia in man (ACH) has been localised to the short arm of human chromosome 4 (Velinov et al 1994, Francomano et al 1994) which corresponds bovine to chromosome 6. The location in man is close to the Huntintons chorea mutation and the human fibroblast growth factor receptor 3 (FGFR3) gene which is implicated in limb formation. This is a good candidate for the gene responsible for achondroplasia, at least in man.

The 'DEXTER' project

At the start of the project nothing was known of the genetics of human achondroplasia. Therefore the project was based on typing Dexter pedigrees, informative for achondroplasia, with markers distributed across the genome and looking for co-segregation of marker alleles with the phenotype. With the resolution of the genome map and the distinctive phenotype typing 50 half-sibs from a carrier bull, mated to non-carrier females, with 150 markers would be adequate to identify the chromosomal location of the gene responsible. Pedigrees of this size are not readily available so we have been collecting DNA from smaller pedigrees, ideally 8 affected and 8 unaffected sibs with their long leg mother from 7 identified carrier bulls, giving 112 progeny. In using smaller family sizes more individuals are required.

With the publication of the location of the ACH locus in man the projects changes to seeing if the locus in man is the same as that operating in Dexter cattle. We are presently using human markers and making these work in cattle, we will then go on to test if these markers are linked to ACH.

Continued on page 9

Dexter Corner by Tim O'Donnell

As I read the latest Bulletin I noticed that you were encouraging people to send in stories or articles on Dexter cattle. I have a story to share. First I need to give you some background about myself and my ideas of a small cow. I was raised in town, but my grandparents lived on a farm. They always kept a few Jersey cows around for milk, cream, butter, cottage cheese and best of all home made ice cream. Grandma's cows were always small, mostly black with a little brown or tan on their backs. She always called them the little Tennessee Jerseys. Their udders were about the biggest thing about them. Over the years the Jersey breeders had tried to increase their size and have bred most of the black out of them. Most all of the Jersey cows you see now are a light tan color with a darker face. My preference is the smaller, darker cow, with a good udder.

One evening I was looking through an Old World Encyclopedia and came across a picture and article on the Kerry/Dexter type cow that was listed as duo-purpose. When I read that the Dexter was the smaller of the two cows, I knew that I had to find out more about these little creatures. Instantly I thought this breed might be the answer to my quest.

Through contact with a local fair judge I located a whole network of Dexter breeders. I called each one and found more information on these intriguing critters. I wrote the secretary of the association and received information on these animals. Within a week I was reading one of the books on the Dexter cows. I also knew who had animals for sale, and had a ball park figure of their price. The next step was to see some of these animals that had taken my fancy. As soon as I laid eyes on them I knew that I was going to have to own one of them. I decided immediately that I wanted the smallest one I could find. I looked at 200 cows or more before I made up my mind to

purchase a young heifer. When the day came to pick her up I was excited to say the least. Upon my arrival at the farm, I saw her standing in the pasture. She seemed to be saying, "Take me home. I want you to spoil me rotten." Well it didn't take long to find out that what she really was saying was "Catch me if you can." When we finally caught her. it was the first time any human had ever touched her. She was scared and not only were we taking her away from her mother, but also putting her through the indignity of being tattooed. She was black and only 29" tall at 7 months of age, but I swear she was as strong as a 1000# bull.

After we got her home, I decided I would have to keep her tied for awhile or I would never catch her if she got out with the other cows. It took two ropes to hold her for she didn't like being tied. I carried feed and water to her day and night for three weeks. By this time she would at least let me walk up to her without trying to get away. I started brushing her from day one. She didn't like it at first, but I just kept on messing with her. After the third week I felt she was ready to get some fresh air. For sure I was tired of carrying feed and water and cleaning up behind her. I turned her out with the other cows. Although she was the smallest heifer, she didn't let her size interfere with taking her place in the herd. The first thing she did was take on a 900# Jersey cow. They went head to head for several minutes and then as quickly as it began, it was over. After a few days of freedom, I tried to catch her again. To say the least she didn't want to give up her freedom. To this day it is still difficult to corral her. Once tied in the barn, I can do about anything with her.

When she was of breeding age, I again went looking for a Dexter, this time a bull. I found just what I was looking for. A small dun colored bull in Iowa. Just a short 10 months later, I had a very small black heifer, 20" tall that weighed in at 23 pounds and all my own. I had my first Dexter that I could give our farm name to which by the way happens to be Dexter Corner.

The name is a little misleading. It is not named after the breed of cattle, but rather a small town that was formerly situated where I now live. I was so very proud of my first true Dexter on Dexter Corner. I have bred my Jersey cows to the short legged, dun colored Dexter bull in the hopes of getting the smaller type chocolate brown cow with a well shaped udder. I now have four heifers with this cross. Two are medium size and two are short legged beefy type. Two are black and two are chocolate brown color.

This summer two will be of breeding age and I'm not sure which way to go. I am open to suggestions if anyone has some ideas. Should I re-breed to the Dexter to get the smaller size, or should I breed back to the Jersey to get the good udder and a little lighter color? Remembering that it is the small, dark color dairy type cow that I have always been partial to. Being introduced to the Dexter cow, I can have both. A purebred Dexter and my Dexter/Jersey cross.

I like to watch people passing by on the highway as they turn their heads and see these tiny animals in the pasture. Several people have called me in the last year asking me the same questions I was wondering about a few years ago. Asking about the Dexter cow! Now that I am on the list of people who own these fine little creatures, I am always willing to help someone get their own Dexters. After all that is how I got mine.

Genetic Study

The recent survey has been forwarded to Dr. Buchanan. Thanks to all those who returned the survey. Several of you asked about medium-legged Dexters.

Short or short-legged Dexters, according to a study done at the request of the Rare Breeds Survival Trust in England, range from 35 to 43 inches tall for cows. Tall or long-legged Dexter cows range from about 39 to 47 inches tall. Medium-legged Dexters are tall Dexters selected for smallness. Cows should about 42 inches or less. If you want to understand the subject better, read Chapter 6 of the Kerry and Dexter Cattle by P.L. Curran. This book is available from the Association for only \$25.

The Dexter Bulletin

Achondroplasia

Continued from page 7

If the human and bovine ACH loci are the same the next stage is to test canidate genes to attempt to identify the gene responsible. If ACH in man and the Dexter achondroplastic phenotype are different, we will then have to carry out the original genome mapping work to identify the chromosomal location of the gene responsible.

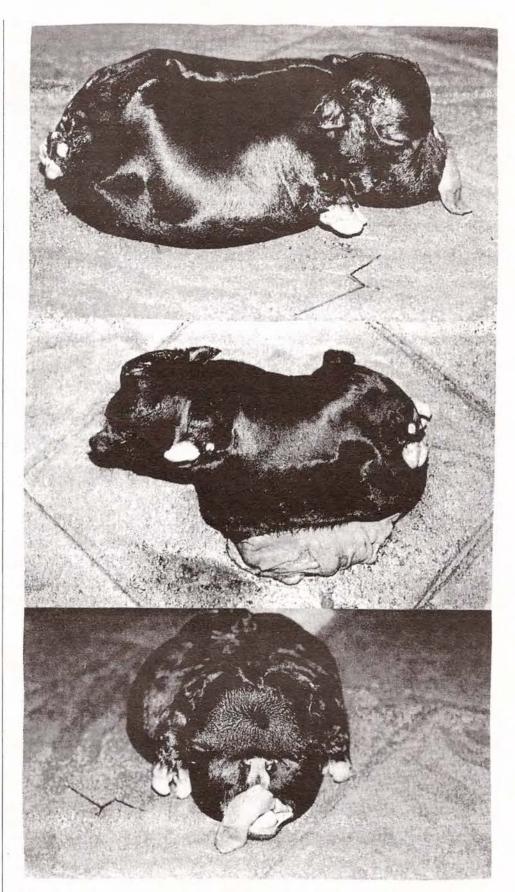
Use of the Markers. Initially the genome mapping work identifies the chromosomal region containing the gene responsible for the phenotype. At this stage the marker we use will be some distance from the gene itself, typically up to 20cM. At this distance the gene and the marker will become separated by recombination about once in every 5 matings. Thus these markers are not of value in predicting the phenotype of an individual as the 'phase' is not known, i.e. which marker allele is associated with which ACH allele.

The next step is to identify more closely linked markers. Once markers are within 5cM of the gene it is reasonable to determine the phase of the markers in family studies, then to use this information to determine the type of other progeny within the family. It is not until the gene itself, and preferably the lesion has been identified that it is possible to devise an unequivocal test that can be used to determine the type of an idividual, without recourse additional to information from other family members.

> Dr. John Williams Roslin Institute

This article is reprinted from <u>The</u> <u>Dexter Cattle Society Bulletin</u>, August 1994 (No. 126).

Bulldog calf photographs on the right appeared in the same issue and are reproduced with the kind permission of the Dexter Cattle Society.



Bulldog calf photographs by Eileen Hayes, Editor, U.K. Dexter Cattle Society

Classified Advertising

Dexter Cattle For Sale

Cows and heifers bred to 1994 National Champion bull. Also, 1995 CA State Fair Ch. bull and female. Weaned heifer, bull and steer calves available now.

Glenn Land Farm Wes Patton 7069 County Rd. 20 Orland, CA 95963 (916) 865-7250 Calves, cows, and bulls. Embryos also available. All from certified and accredited herd by Ohio Dept. of Agriculture.

Briar Hill Farm James G. Johnson 4092 Broadview Rd. Richfield, OH 44288 (216) 659-4861

Cows, heifers, and bulls. All ages and sizes. Very short to tall. All black. Some dehorned.

J & J Mini Ranch John and Judy Heisler 1600 17th Ave. Longmont, CO 80501 (303) 651-0420 For sale: Registered Dexter stock. Dehorned. Please call for more information.

Crow Hill Farm The Schlegels 5484 Force Rd. Shreve, OH 44676 (216) 567-3890

For sale: Registered Dexter bulls, cows, and calves. Good bloodlines, easy calving. All black cows, one red/dun bull: short 18 mos., and one short black bull.

Dinsmore Farm Ron & Gail Brinkley 5455 U.S. 12 W. Buchanan, MI 49107 (616) 695-5320 Registered dehorned black bull and cow. Bull - #4021. Manitou P-Bar Toby. Born 2/9/89. Short, great breeder. \$1100. Cow - #2935. Bricoe's Eleanor. Born 1/29/85. Small calves - to calf in fall. \$600.

Jerry Sewrook 712 Hermosa Chaparral, NM 88021 (505) 824-4357

Registered Dexter cows, heifers, and bulls. Black, some very short to tall. Heifer calves dehorned and halter broken.

Morgan Ridge Farm Donna Martin / Robert Tobey 19615 Asheville Hwy. Landrum, S.C. 29356 (803) 457-4916 Small, select herd of Dexter cattle. Usually some for sale. Specializing under 40", black and red/dun.

Kelvin Grove Stock Farms James H. Brown 15060 S.W. Hillsboro Hwy. Hillsboro, OR 97123 (503) 628-1116

4 yearling heifers for sale, 2 blacks - 1 tall, 1 short, 2 red/duns - both short. 2 large cows bred back to Anton Gold - our herd bull. Several calves on ground, all sizes & colors.

Rainbow Hills Dexter Farm Jerry Starnes Rt. 13, Box 75 Poplar Bluff, MO. 63901 (314) 785-2719 or (816) 826-5645 Upland Dexters & D3 Dexters offer for sale, dual registered Dexter bred cows & heifers, yearling & 2 yr. old bulls; short & long leg, black or red/dun.

Donna Hutchinson Gen Del Rimbey TOC 2JO Alta, Canada (403) 843-3076

Dexter Cattle For Sale

Registered cows, heifers, calves, and bulls. All from MO Dept. of Ag. certified disease-free herd. Also USDA inspected summer sausage and beef sticks made from Dexter beef.

Twainland Dexter Farm James Mitchell Rt. 2, Box 71 Paris, MO 65275 (816) 327-5585

If you didn't check with me, you may have paid too much!

For Sale: Registered Dexters:

Bred yearling, short - legged. \$800.

Two heifer calves, one short, one long legged. \$600 each. Bull calf, long legged. \$300.

All are black. All are hand fed daily and are tame.

Christine and Allan Green 5604 Dairyland Road Hillsborough, NC 27278 (919) 933-5105

Will consider a swap for unrelated cow or heifer.

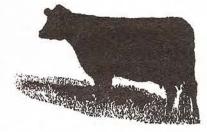
Mix or Match - Red/dun cow 8 years old - dehorned "Emerald Cinnamon Fern" #3626. 2 red/dun offspring with horns / out of "Fairyhill Peter" - Heifer 8/1/94 "Mountview Cinnamon Rose" #7234. Heifer calf 8/27/95 (not registered yet).

Eileen Dyer Maple Hill Farm 233 Shrewsbury St. Holden, MA 01520 (508) 829-5688

Top of the line registered Dexters; herd of 16 black cows with red/dun herd bull; will sell cow / calf pairs, open heifers (12 mos. & older), heifer calves, bull calves, and breeding age bulls. Prices are negotiable.

John Clouse 1873 Chatham Church Rd. Moncure, NC 27559 (919) 542-3339 e-mail HN4565@handsnet.org

QUALITY DEXTERS



Bright Meadows RR 1 Ladysmith, B.C., Canada VOR 2EO Carol Davidson (604) 245-4046

BREEDING FOR CONFORMATION-SIZE-DISPOSITION

Registered Dexter cattle. Cows, bulls, and calves.

Elmer E. Templeton Rt. 1, Box 65 Fleming, OH 45729 (614) 373-4892

For sale: Registered Dexters.

10 open yearling heifers @ \$1250 each. 8 bred 2 yr. old heifers @ \$1500 ea. Several pairs with heifer calves @ \$2500 / pr. One young cow born 5/11/91 with twin heifer calves born 7/7/94 - all three for \$4500. Bull-Glencara Paddy, #3864EX black, 44" tall, 1050 lbs. @ 4 yrs. Offspring don't carry EX. \$2500. Several yearling bulls @ \$1000. My first calves from Paddy are on the ground and are pretty as a picture. I offer these cattle for sale as a complete dispersal. Will offer special volume pricing.

Roy Atherton 21125 S.E. Yamhill Gresham, OR 97030 (503) 666- 5356

Herd reduction sale, private treaty. Bred cows, bulls, and heifers. Call evenings.

Phillip Martz RD4 Box 162 Berlin, PA 15530 (814) 267-5052



Smiling Johnson

Dexter Headquarters P.O. Box 441

Elkhart, Kansas 67950 Phone (405) 696-4836 Stationed in the Oklahoma Panhandle

Specializing in the original horned cattle under 40". Choice breeding stock, prices upon request. Breeding for the ultimate in flavor and low fat for the health conscious consumer.

Dexter Cattle For Sale

THOMAS' DEXTERS

AL & SANDI THOMAS P.O. BOX 135 ANTELOPE, OR 97001 PHONE/FAX (541) 489-3385



- *20 Years of Breeding Champion Dexters.
- *We are dedicated to the Breed, and its improvement.
- *Specializing in TRUE RED color, we believe we have the largest herd of **Red**/dun Dexters in North America.
- *Always have cows and heifers for sale. Check for availability of bulls, we only offer the best each year.
- *Please note our new State Telephone Prefix number (541).

Irish Dexter Cattle

Elaine and Allan Abrams Owners

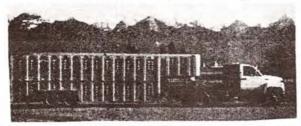
ARROW WOOD FARM

104 East Saddle River Road Saddle River, New Jersey 07458

Tel (201) 327-0740

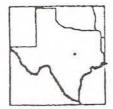
Fax (201) 327-1912

Registered Dexter cows, bulls & calves Richard C. Keep of Ninepipe Farm 1394 Olsen Road - Charlo, MT 59824 - (406) 644-2642 Also available for custom hauling



Texas Registered Stock

Both Types of Registered Dexter Stock Usually Available For Sale



We need more breeders in Texas. Therefore, if we don't have the animal you want, we will help you find it from our Texas Breeders.

Briscoe's DBL D Stock Farms

Doyle & Delmareen Briscoe P.O. Box 2368 Harker Heights, Texas 76543 817-939-6016 At Dog Run, we breed registered Dexter cattle for short, well-proportioned conformation and good dispositions.

Now offering a selection of horned black cows, heifers, and calves. Delivery services available.

Larry Higgins & Gwen Casey-Higgins Dog Run Dexters Route 3 Box 5806 Berryville, VA 22611 (703) 955-4421

Small black Dexters available. Years of quality herd management.



Grand View Farm

7411 288th St. E. Graham, WA 98338 (206) 847-7204

Charles and Bettie George

Registered Dexters For Sale Marie Porter MT.2C Dexter's 12200 Pulp Mill Rd. Missoula, MT 59802 (406) 626-5319

Windy Hollow Dexters
Larkspur, Colorado
(303) 681-3838
Heifer and bull calves
Registered - Horned

Registered Dexter cattle for sale: heifer & bull calves, bred heifers & cows, and bulls, red/dun or black, short or tall, large number to choose from.

Dave Friedrich 4704 Hwy 16 S Antelope, MT 59211 (406) 286-5219 Dale Friedrich PO Box 111 Antelope, MT 59211 (406) 286-5289

Registered Dexter cattle. Cows, bulls, and calves. Black. Both short and tall.

Lazy L Ranch Larry Crompton 3871 Skyhawk Lane Vacaville, CA 95688 (707) 446-4880

Dexter Cattle For Sale

For Sale: Cows, bulls, calves - all ages. Owen McCoy 22880 Col. Leonard Rd. Rock Hall, MD 21661 (410) 639-7217

HERD DISPERSAL MUST SELL 7 HEAD VERY TAME REGISTERED DEXTER HEIFERS/COWS. EXCELLENT QUALITY, CHERISHED BLACK BEAUTIES.

Tom and Pat McWilliams Hickory Hollow Farm Rt. 4, Box 49 Kirksville, MO 63501 Call: (816) 627-0204

Creekbank Dexters

Jerry & Valerie Boettger RR#1, Tofield AB, Can. TOB4JO (403) 662-2735 For Sale - 3 Dexter calves(SL &LL) Sire - Kahoka Dun Buster Weaned & Dehorned - Red/Dunn & Black

Are you driving to the annual meeting? You are invited to stop by and see one of the largest Dexter herds in the nation. Remember this is a busy time of year, so cattle will be shown by appointment only. Females starting at under \$400.00. Contact Jim or Jeanne at Twainland Farms for information.

Rt. 2, Box 71 Paris, MO 65275 (816) 327-5585

Congratulations to
Terry Parsons,
Benton, Arkansas.
A New Dexter Breeder
His selection of Breeding Stock from Rainbow Hills Dexter
Farm gives him an outstanding start.

Registered Dexters from large herd.
Cows, heifers, calves. A few Red/Dun.
Transportation can be arranged.
IDA-J-MAR FARMS
Jack Goodman
4148 N. 1100 E.
Buhl, ID 83316
(208) 543-4461

2 short, black, horned heifers, 8 mo. & 1yr. old. Halter broke. New calves coming must sell, \$1200 for both.

TRUE GRIT FARM Robert & Carole Rohloff Rt. 3, Box 182 Montrose, MO 64770 (816) 476-5442

For Sale: Hilltop Gideon, #6125, gentle black bull with horns. Very good bull.

Dexter Square Don Brehmer W1852 Hwy. PP Hilbert, WI 54129 (414) 853-3460

Dexter Semen For Sale

Limited amount of semen available from Rhea of Sunshine, #4588. Red/dun, 38 1/2" tall, 670 lbs. @ 4 yrs. High proportion of heifers. First come, first serve. \$20 per straw plus s & h.

Rainbow Hills Dexter Farm Rt. 2, Box 75 Poplar Bluff, MO 63901 (314) 785-2719 or (816) 826-5645







Semen for United States and Canadian use:

HIYU TYEE #3365, black, 45" @ 5 yrs.

BEDFORD ROMARC RAMBLER #5449, black, 39" @ 18 mos. RIVERHILL SATURN'S GALAXY #5255, black, 43" @ 4 yrs.

WEE GAELIC MR. O'TOOLE #5741,red/Dun, 45" @ 4 yrs.

The above bulls are \$20 US / straw, \$25 Cdn. / straw.

CORNAHIR OUTLAW #6703, **RED**/dun, 44" @ 4 yrs. (Irish import) \$35 US (\$45 Cdn.) 1 - 5 straws, \$30 US (\$40 Cdn.) 6 or more.

SALTAIRE PLATINUM #6504P, black, POLLED, 42" at 3 yrs. (English import w/Fred Chesterley, WA), \$30 US (\$40 Cdn.) per straw. Note: orders for 6 or more straws of Platinum get free ship/handling.

All these bulls are guaranteed free of dwarfism. All have good temperment, long bodies, deep frames and have produced outstanding calves. For more information and photographs, contact Carol Davidson, Bright Meadows, R.R. 1, Ladysmith, B.C., Canada or call: (604) 245-4046.



Dexter Semen For Sale

Collected by COBA/Select Sires from Jamie O'Callen, #1949. Black, proportionate type. Excellent disposition, 42" tall @ 39 months.

Briar Hill Farm James G. Johnson 4092 Broadview Rd. Richfield, OH 44286 (216) 659-4861

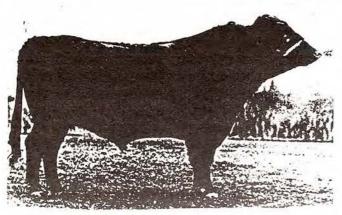
Saltaire Platinum: (2708) 6504P Your only source of polled genes in U.S. Height 42" @ 3 yrs.

For information, pictures and prices write:

F. D. Chesterley 4178 West Road Blaine, WA 98230

Very Rare. Looking for the shortest bull you can find to bring the height of your Dexter herd down? Here he is, Billy Bob's Danny Boy #7167, 32 1/2" tall at one year. Red/Dun, excellent temperment, very proportionate. Pictures and Pedigree sent on request. \$40.00 per straw plus S & H, minimum order 5 straws. Danny Boy is currently being used exclusively in an experimental crossbreeding program. For information contact Happy Mountain Farm.

Happy Mountain Farm 25204 - 156th Ave. S.E. Kent, WA 98042 (206) 631-1986



Use Lucifer of Knotting #3182, 45" at 3 yrs. if you are looking for a Top Red/dun Bull (Not Dun) to improve udders and milk production in your herd.

\$30.00 ea. U.S. 1 - 5 straws \$25.00 ea. U.S. 6 or more

> Paul & Judy Taylor P.O. Box 125 Colinton, Alberta TOGORO Phone/Fax (403) 675-3831 Cellular (403) 689-8360

Thomas' Reu' Grande' # 3847, 40" @ 3 yrs. Black w/**RED**/dun genes. \$20/straw + S & H. Available in Canada and U.S. International Export from Canada.

Thomas' Magic Pride #3848, Black w/RED/dun genes. 40" @ 3 1/2 yrs. \$20/straw + S & H. U.S. sales only.

Red! Thomas' Prides Red Baron #4882, 42" @ 4 yrs. Very docile. \$35/straw + S & H. Available for International Export from U.S. (NO Dun here!) Good dispositions, proportionate in confirmation. Blue or Champion winners @ Dexter shows. Strong, correct feet & legs. Produce quality healthy offspring. No minimum purchase required. All costs C.O.D. Thomas' Dexters, P.O. Box 135, Antelope, OR 97001

Collected from Glencara Paddy, #3864 EX. Black, 44 1/2" tall, 1050 lbs. @ 4 yrs. \$20 / straw + s & h. Note his offspring do not carry EX.

Evelyn Colclough 10418 16th St. East Puyallup, WA 98372 (206) 927-4608

Dexter Products For Sale

HALTERS FOR DEXTERS

HEIFERS/SM COWS & BULLS SMALL}
MOST COWS/YOUNG BULLS MEDIUM}
BULLS/LARGER COWS LARGE; \$17.00
NYLON WEBBING, UNDER CHIN-CHAIN. GREA

NYLON WEBBING, UNDER CHIN-CHAIN. GREAT AT HOME OR SHOW. USE TO TIE OUT, LEAD, & TRAIN.

BLACK, GREEN, BLUE OR RED CHECK OR M.O. WITH ORDER, POSTAGE WILL BE C.O.D. SEND TO: THOMAS' DEXTERS, BOX 135, ANTELOPE, OR 97001 (541) 489-3385

DEXTER AI BULL REVIEW

A comprehensive collection of facts, statistics & extended pedigrees, with a photo (where available) of each bull and in many cases, additional photos of precursors and progeny.

This booklet is a *must have* for anyone considering using Dexter AI bulls.

\$15 cdn / \$10 U.S. includes shipping and postage. Order from: Index Marketing & Research Group Box 308 Cassidy, BC, VOR 1HO

> Dexter Field Day & Show Clinic 1996 Saturday July 20, 1996 For more information contact: Sandi Thomas P.O. Box 135 Antelope, OR 97001 (541) 489-3385

Information

Books For Sale

The Life and Times of Dexters

by Ted Neal

A full color book about Dexters direct from England. \$27.50 check or money order.

Dexter Cattle

by John Hays - USA \$7.95 per copy, plus \$1.55 postage and handling.

The Dexter Cow and Cattle Keeping on a Small Scale

by Dr. William Thrower - England \$9.00 each, postage paid.

Kerry and Dexter Cattle and other ancient Irish breeds, A history

by Patrick Leonard Curran Lecturer, Faculty of Agriculture University College, Dublin Council Member, Royal Dublin Society, 1990 \$25

Please order all books from:

Rosemary Fleharty, Secretary
American Dexter Cattle Association
Route 1, Box 378
Concordia, MO 64020

Sales requirements for semen

Advertising pertaining to the sale of semen in the Bulletin, requires one to state the height of the bull from the shoulder to the ground and the age at which the height was recorded. The bloodtype for any bull being used out-of-herd A.I. must be on the with the ADCA.

All Ads Due by June 25



See you in Higginsville, Mussouri, June 7 - 9.

Advertising

Classified advertisements of Dexter cattle or Dexter semen is \$5.00 for up to a 2" column ad or \$25.00 per year for six issues. Ads over 2" up to 4" are \$10 per ad or \$50.00 per year for six issues. All ads are limited to Dexters exclusively and subject to approval by the ADCA. Make all checks payable to the American Dexter Cattle Association. Please submit payment with your ad and send to:

17409 E. 163rd. St. Lee's Summit, MO 64082

All transactions are between buyer and seller. The Association trusts both will use their own good judgement and exercise the highest of integrity.

The Dexter Bulletin

The **Bulletin** welcomes articles and letters from the membership. Those published may be edited for length and clarity.

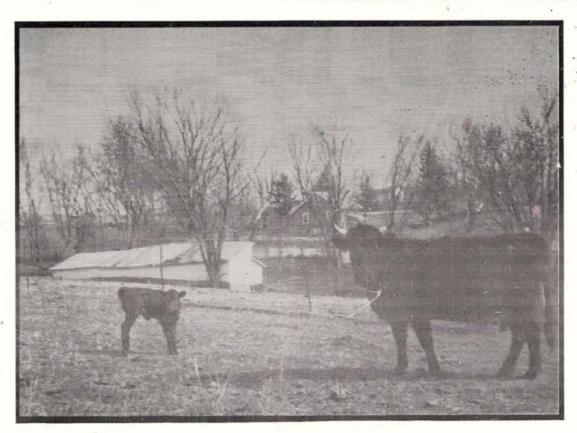
The reviews and opinions expressed in the **Bulletin** are those of the authors and may or may not agree with the American Dexter Cattle Association. The Association assumes no responsibility for technical data published by independent authors.

Send letters and articles to the editor:

Richard Henry 17409 E. 163rd. St. Lee's Summit, MO 64082

Fee Schedule

Cost of Registrations:	
Cows up to 1 yr, old	\$20.00
Bulls up to 2 yrs. old	\$20.00
Cows over 1 yr, old	\$40.00
Bulls over 2 yrs. old	\$40.00
	TARREST STATE OF THE STATE OF T
Animals from A.L sires add	\$1.00
Cost of Transfers.	
Regular transfers	\$20.00
Inner-herd transfers	\$10.00
Registration and transfers for non members	\$100.00
New membership (owning registered Dexters)	\$30.00
。第三人称形式,"我们是这个大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大大	把握 编 所用 的过去时间 的复数形式
Associate membership (not owning Deuter cattle)	\$30,00
Annual renewal (for all memberships)	\$20.00
Subscriber (Bulletin only)	\$10.00
Names for registration cannot exceed 21 characters	
The tattoo code letter for 1996 is "F"	
The tattoo code retter for 1990 is T	
[4] [1] [1] [2] [2] [3] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4] [4	THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T



Dexters Ideal For The Small Farm, story on page 5. Photograph of Connie & heifer calf by Paul Anderson

The Dexter Bulletin May/June

Richard henry, Editor 17409 E. 163rd St. Lee's Summit, MO 64082





John S. Merrifield 5634 N.E. 12th Newton, KS 67114