The Dexter Bulletin

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American Dexter Cattle Association

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Message from the President

The ADCA is growing, and with growth come questions, concerns, and issues. Maybe we should just consider them growing pains. Some topics we may have covered before; others may be brand new. Decisions have to be made that benefit the breed, not always the individual breeders. All of this takes work, discussion, thought, respect, and whatever else to keep the ADCA strong.

I often think of the litmus test for acid when I am faced with various questions and issues as president. For me every question or issue that arises is weighed against my mental litmus test: "How is it good for Dexters?" because "If it isn't good for Dexters, it isn't good." I figure that anything that has properties of acid, as defined as "what is sharp, sour, biting in manner, nature, or disposition," needs to be discovered and dismissed. We all need to focus on the good things we can do for Dexters.

Certainly giving them a good life while they're around is important. An animal raised for beef doesn't live to see a lot of birthdays, but a quiet, well-fed, comfortable life is still imperative. The end comes for all of us, but it's great to enjoy life while we're around. I know that I'm preaching to the choir on this point and I won't belabor it. Yet, it can't be said often enough that taking on the responsibility of an animal requires commitment.

Getting Dexters out in the public eye, participating in Dexter events, particularly initiating some events in your area, are all great for Dexters. If there aren't competitive shows near you, try to bring your cattle to fairs just on exhibit. It's amazing how many people will stop to ask about them, and it's a super opportunity to showcase these fine little cattle. Call your local agricultural agent and ask if there is room for some small cattle to be included at local fairs. You'll need to get the requisite health papers in advance of the event. Animals that are brought out and about

need to be tame, clean, and well-caredfor. They need to be broke to lead, even if
only enough to get uneventfully from the
trailer to the pen. If Dolly hasn't ever
been touched by human hands, bringing
her to anything but the local rodeo calfroping event probably wouldn't be appropriate. Actually, bringing her to an event
minus handling could even be its own
local rodeo calf-roping event!

It's important to make sure that contact with Dexters is a positive experience. This is the reason that the bull we took to an ALBC event in September will have his next exposure to the general public when he's the main course at a barbecue. He failed miserably at public relations!

Maintaining an organization that is helpful to its members, to new members, and to prospective members is vital. It's good for Dexters because they need us. Granted they're smart, but they can't maintain their registry, association, and advertising. I've heard people remark at least twice about what good people they've met in the Dexter Association. Nobody wants to join a difficult, contentious group. Having people know that we help each other, that we are a network of concerned, conscientious owners/breeders, promotes Dexters in an irreplaceable way.

Share your concerns with your Regional Directors. Give them a call to talk about your Dexters. For technical questions call the Association office in Missouri, 660-841-9502. Evenings and weekends, Rosemary Fleharty is available to offer advice and refer you appropriately. At the Annual Show/Sale/Meeting in Oklahoma, the Directors will be bringing the concerns and issues that are shared with them by members in their region. Certainly coming to Oklahoma yourself and bringing cattle is the best, but Regional Directors will be there to represent you.

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Staying well informed on technical issues published in the Bulletin is good for the breed. This issue has a story by John Potter, who is the chair of the Genetics Committee. He has worked to find a place where we can have DNA testing done for parentage verification. Please read about his work and follow through on having your bull DNA tested. Whether they're to be used for AI or live service, we don't want any paternity suits. Luckily now it's just a matter of pulling hairs rather than extracting blood.

A point that can't be emphasized often enough is keeping up on paperwork. We don't do Dexters right without it. The integrity of the registrations and transfers must be maintained. There is no substitute for accurate, timely record-keeping. There is no excuse for not getting it right. If you're buying, check the papers. If you're selling, have them ready and make the transfer as soon as possible. Anybody who doesn't want to be bothered with registration papers might do better with an ant farm, rather than cattle.

Here's the really good stuff that's done for Dexters: chores twice a day, building fences, shoveling, fetching water, sitting up all night wondering about a calving case, fixing fences, tattooing, shoveling, making hay, filing paperwork, advertising, shoveling...

Dexters are a good breed that deserves good owners/breeders. If you're doing good things for your Dexters, then good for you. I thank you.

I am also concerned about our future direction, and use as my litmus test for all things, "How is it good for Dexters?"

Mentally I follow this with, "If it isn't good for Dexters, it isn't good." I know these probably sound like bumper stickers, but they do help me keep focused. This is a different breed and does, indeed, have its own niche. Hopefully we can endure our growing pains gracefully and openmindedly. Personal agendas aren't nearly as important as Dexter agendas, in my mind. Having the show/sale in different locales each year is a good thing, but does bring with it a bit of the ol' "when in

Rome, do as the Romans do" concern. The ADCA needs to hold it together as a national organization and still live within some local practices.

For example, a pen class is a foreign concept to me. At every show I've ever been, cattle have been led into a ring and judged as they walked around. Yet I can see how pen classes may bring more cattle to the show and it passes my litmus test of being good for Dexters in that way.

"To clip or not to clip," which seems to be the question, again is put to my mental tests and it seems to me that if we insist on such strong language about hairstyles, then we're cutting some Dexters from being included. I do think that if the Directors decide to go with the "natural looking" style with very minimal clipping, then the language should still allow for clipped animals to be judged at no penalty. Something like, "It is the preference of the ADCA to show animals with minimal clipping. However, animals which have been clipped can be shown without penalty in the judging process. The ADCA does insist on animals that are clean, well fed, and of no danger to themselves, other cattle, handlers, and the spectators when they are shown." I guess this leaves the "bad actors" in the pens? Again, without penalty to them when we do pen classes.

This is a pivotal year for the ADCA and we'll need good work and sincere, constructive thinking of people such as yourself. I thank you again for writing and hope that I've shared my views in philosophy and practicality.

Please feel free to write me, and I look forward to meeting you in Oklahoma.

Secretary's Report

Spring is definitely not around the corner in Missouri. It's still snowing and cold here. I hope the weather is better where you are. The herd book is getting close to being finished so look for it in your mailboxes soon. It is sent out book rate—the cost would be prohibitive if we tried to send it any other way. If you look at the financial statement last year, you will see the herd book is a very costly publication (twice what we receive from members to pay for it). The Board had passed a motion several years ago to charge \$10 for the herd book and give the option to those who do not want to purchase it. It is a really nice publication for the price members pay. We certainly did not want individuals throwing away the book because they had no use for it. Only about half of our members purchase a book.

I have received several e-mails with questions from the Yahoo website (dextercattle2). Please understand I do not monitor this site, so if you have questions, please mail them directly to my email address. I do not have a good internet connection-in rural Missouri all I can get is a long distance connection so it would be too costly and time-consuming to monitor this site. I am not an hourly employee so I don't plan on monitoring it at this point even with a good connection. If you read this site, please understand there is good information as well as some very misleading information. Insist on quality, in-depth, research-based information rather than opinions and hearsay. If you need verification of specific questions, please contact me or one of your Directors or officers. They will help you get answers.

The DNA test for bulldog dwarfism is still pending. I am in constant contact with Jon Beever and he is keeping me updated. His most recent e-mail indicated we are very close to having the test. Right now we don't know costs. I wish I had more information, but that is all that is available. We will keep you informed. If

necessary, we could do a special mailing making an announcement if it is not close to a Bulletin mailing. We do hope that several of our breeders will participate in this test. This is a chance to know where our carriers are. If you are concerned about this gene, you should test your animals and ask to purchase tested animals in the future. This is a very important breakthrough for Dexter breeders. This will be a voluntary test.

The question about polled and EX animals is always a looming one. There are lots of animals that have this in their background. This does not make them less of a Dexter. They are accepted in the registry. With polled animals the question about upgrading or natural mutation is not an issue. These are now all accepted in the ADCA registry. With the increasing number of registries for polled animals, the market must be there. And EX animals have been instrumental in getting red into the population.

Incomplete paperwork is becoming a problem. The ADCA asks that all breeders complete paperwork for all animals being sold (we do not enforce this). Please complete transfers for new members. Do not sell animals and hand off white applications. We are finding some of the animals with white applications cannot be registered for a variety of reasons. Once paperwork becomes outdated, it becomes very difficult to get it up-to-date. If you are purchasing animals, ask to see the registration paper and make sure it has the present owner's name on it.

If you want your herd classified, please contact the ADCA. The Brown Swiss Cattle Association will no longer accept calls made directly to them. The ADCA needs to know so that we can send forms to you and to your classifier. If you contact Brown Swiss directly, you may not get your herd classified due to lack of forms.

I want to extend a special thank you to Maureen McCready for the wonderful TV spot she had on Dexters. I understand she had more than 1,600 inquiries. Wow, she has done a lot for the market of Dexters single-handedly. Please thank her personally if you see her or come to the annual meeting and meet her there. I think her granddaughter won the prize for the cutest Dexter breeder.

The ADCA is working hard to provide more and more services to our breeders.

If you need help, give us a call and we will try to do what we can. However, don't shoot the messenger when you don't always get a positive answer. I cannot make up papers on unregistered animals or change rules passed by the Board.

Have a great spring and hope to see you at the Annual Meeting in July.

Color Genetics and the Registration of Dexter Cattle

John Potter

The Color Genetics of Dexter Cattle

Dexter cattle occur in three genetically distinct colors: black, red, and dun. Two unrelated pairs of genes that are located on separate chromosomes control these three colors. Black and red is one pair of alternative colors. In Dexters there are two different red genes, and the two red genes are alternatives to each other. They are not visually distinguishable, but they are identifiable by a DNA test that has been available on a commercial basis for several years. Both red genes are recessive to their black alternative, so every red Dexter contains two red genes.

Black and dun is the other pair of alternative colors. The dun color is due to a brown mutation that was discovered and identified in 2002. The dun gene is recessive to its black alternative, so every dun Dexter contains two dun genes. The dun gene DNA test that was developed for research purposes will be available on a commercial basis by the spring of 2003 so that dun carriers (black or red Dexters) may be identified. A complete DNA color profile will be available and will include the tests for both pairs of color genes.

Two black Dexters can produce black, red, or dun calves. In order for two black parents to produce a red calf, each parent must carry a hidden red gene. In order for two black parents to produce a dun calf, each parent must carry a hidden dun gene. Two dun Dexters can produce dun or red calves. In order for two dun parents to produce a red calf, each parent must carry a hidden red gene.

In Dexter cattle, red is the only color that breeds true. Two red Dexters can produce only red calves even if each parent carries a hidden dun gene. A Dexter that contains two red genes and two dun genes is red in appearance. When a red Dexter that doesn't carry a dun gene is crossed with a dun Dexter that doesn't carry a red gene, the result will be a black calf. Each black calf resulting from this cross will carry a hidden red gene and a hidden dun gene.

The Registration of Non-Black Dexter Cattle

The primary purpose of any purebred breed association is to keep accurate records of the animals in its registry. To support that purpose, a Genetics Committee was established by the ADCA Board of Directors to assist with the proper identification and registration of animals in the three color categories in its registry. The Genetics Committee includes Anthony Bauer (member, Illinois), Rosemary Fleharty (member, Missouri), John Potter (chairman, Michigan), and Sandi Thomas (member, Oregon). Because of the confusion that exists over the visual distinction between red and dun, and because of the need for an accurate registry, the Genetics Committee strongly recommends that all non-black Dexters have DNA verification of their color prior to registration. In order for an animal to be registered as red, the ADCA currently requires one of

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the following conditions to be met: Either (1) both parents of the animal are registered as red, or (2) the animal has a positive red factor DNA test report on file with the ADCA Registrar.

If the DNA test report from a nonblack Dexter shows the genotype E^D/E^D, then the animal is dun and does not carry a red gene. If the DNA test report from a non-black Dexter contains only one E^D symbol in its genotype (E^D/E⁺ or E^D/e), then the animal is dun and carries a hidden red gene. If the DNA test report from a non-black Dexter does not contain the symbol E^D in its genotype

$(E^+/E^+, E^+/e, or e/e)$, then the animal is red.

The DNA for the color tests is obtained from a sample of hair follicles or from a straw of semen. To obtain further information about Dexter color genetics and to obtain the application and instructions for the DNA color tests, contact John Potter by e-mail (jpotter@remc11.k12.mi.us) or by standard mail (2524 W. Elm Valley Road, Galien, MI 49113). All requests for color test applications must contain the standard mailing address of the owner submitting the request, and all requests must specify the number of animals to be tested.

LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW

RATHY SMITH

Is it really spring yet? I simply won't believe it until the last flake has evaporated and those robins do their bobbing-along stuff. True to their breed reputation, our Dexters came through a nasty, Northeastern winter without even a sniffle, and none of them have what would be considered deluxe accommodations. Sometimes we brushed snow off of them to see just who was who. They lived up to the hardiness so typical of Dexters.

Holy snow! Did we get nailed with the white stuff at Christmas and then again on January 2! Our area (Southern Herkimer County in Central NYS) was smack in the bull's eye and about three feet fell during each storm. And that snow had staying power!

The Dexters managed gracefully despite their diminutive stature. Early on Christmas morning I went to check on the four oxen and four dry cows that have a large wooden wall for protection. They were stocked with three large round bales and a water trough nearby. For some reason known only to them, or just to torture me, they decided to walk way up in the pasture to wait out the storm. I

saw them leaving that morning and stationing themselves among the brush in the pasture. Ah, how bad could it get? I thought.

I found out the next morning when the cattle sort of had themselves stormed in, away from their hay and water. It had been so bad in our county that roads were closed and nobody went anywhere overnight. Bob and I waddled through waisthigh snow, alternately reminding each other about the "better or worse" clause of the marriage contract, and exhorting each other ever onward. No time to be a liberated woman, I let him be my hero and break most of the trail. Six feet tall versus five feet two inches gave him a special advantage, and I knew he wanted to get there first.

Though deep, the snow was still soft and fluffy so it was more like swimming than walking. The Dexters would have made their way back to the barn when they got hungry enough, I suppose, but I didn't want to wait them out. I assumed they'd use our trail. Instead, they made their own paths. They simply needed a little inspiration to begin the journey.

As they passed through the deep snow they looked like hairy, bovine submarines with their horns for the periscopes. Just their toplines and their horns could be seen as they pushed and chugged through the snow drifts. I wished that I'd had a camera, but getting my own buffalo butt up through the snow was work enough. The Christmas feasting wore off fast. How much pie had I possibly eaten?

When we all returned breathlessly to the barn, I vowed if they went back up there again in that snow I'd shoot them myself. I can't get him to own up to it, but I think that Bob muttered something about beating me to it. True to their sturdy and smart nature, the Dexters attacked their hay and watched us shovel. They were unscathed by the experience, even with my verbal threat about a gun.

However, on the sad side, during the long, snowy winter we did finally make the tough decision to beef two of our oxen, Harry and Curly. They were lame and certainly compromised getting around in deep snow. By the time one gets oxen trained, you've walked a lot of miles together. Harry was a gem of a being; Curly had a few issues, one being that he was rather light in the hind feet in his youth. He also never made a firm commitment to being clipped. Yet Curly could back up better than any steer that ever wore a yoke and Harry was the trustiest animal one could ever hope to have. Having owned them for almost ten years will certainly be a fond memory for us. For anyone getting the Bulletin for awhile, I believe they were pictured on the winter issue of 2000. Luckily we still have their brothers, Tom and Dick, who now rule over the dry cows by themselves. Sometimes I win; sometimes I lose.

Every fall I bet against Mother Nature that I'll do less shoveling of the white stuff by letting the livestock run in and out at their will, than I would shoveling of the brown stuff if they were stabled all winter. For the last couple of winters, I've smugly been the winner. However, this year Mother Nature cashed in her chips with the winning hand. I must have shoveled

about twice as much of the white stuff, but who's measuring? Unlike clouds that have silver linings, we will find the linings of snow drifts to be not silver, but lined with good fertilizer.

As for all of this personal experience and what it really has to do with Dexters, it shows how they can manage in cold weather. Little guys that they are, our Dexters, including some calves from the summer, managed without complaint during those nasty storms. They'd rather be in the bushes than near an eight-foot wooden wall designed for their protection. Since then, our cattle have been through sub-zero temperatures which produced condensed breath every time they crunched a cud. While we shivered and rubbed our hands together to keep fingers from freezing while we did chores, the Dexters lounged in snow. I started to wonder if we had vaks in the Himalayas or Dexters in New York. True to their toughness, they did fine all winter and are now basking in the spring sunshine. They've rested up to face their next challenge of summer flies!

Here's hoping that warm weather comes early to your part of the world and that all is well with you and your Dexters.

Deadlines

Deadlines for submission of articles, photos, and advertising for the Bulletin are as follows:

Spring Issue: February 15
Summer Issue: May 15
Fall Issue: August 15
Winter Issue: November 15

Ideally the Bulletin will be mailed:

Winter Issue - December 15 Spring Issue - March 15 Summer Issue - June 15 Fall Issue - September 15

Dexters Down Under

Wes & Jane Patton

When I was asked by the ADCA board of directors to represent our association at the Second World Dexter Congress in Australia, I was pleased to accept. I was also pleased when the Board voted to send Rosemary Fleharty as a representative as well. Our Association had a good representation at the first World Congress in England four years before, and it is important to be represented at events of this

magnitude. The network that is built at these conferences is very important to our breed.

This time only four of us from the U.S. were able to attend. It is a long distance to go for a four day conference, so I applied for a sabbatical leave from the University to stay on and study pasture management and create internships for our students. Because of the leave, Jane and I stayed three and one half months in Australia and New Zealand, and were able to visit twelve Dexter breeders in our travels.

The Congress was very well done, and Rosemary highlighted the topics in her account in the last Bulletin.

There are a lot of people with Dexters who are striving to find a commercial market niche for them, and we were able to hear from several people about this at the meetings. To that end, the keynote speaker was the founder of Lenard's, Lenard Poulter, who has created the leading fresh prepared meal solutions retail outlets in Australia. He got his start in chicken and has now started a red meat line of products which will be found all over Australia within a few months. His message was to go to the

consumer first and work back to the production of the product. He said many people fall in love with their animals, begin producing them, and then try to figure out how to market the product. He also emphasized the fact that with a limited number of animals such as our breed represents, it will be difficult to maintain a constant supply for the consumer after the product interest is cre-

ated.

Kadina Downs The War Lord



Hobbit Hill Camellia

Karen Venables of Jalamo Dexter Stud was not on the program but was a very interesting addition, especially for those who want to milk their Dexters. She reported on her Dexter dairy and cheese business. This was fascinating to me as she was doing intensive grazing with her 36 Dexters on fortyacre dairy where she has set up a cheese-manufacturing unit, and will market her products through farmers markets and over the internet. More on this later.

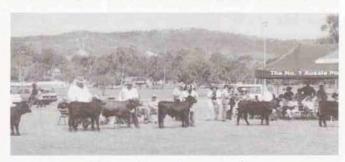
For many, the highlight of the Congress was the presentation by the University of Sydney, who announced and explained the DNA marker test they have

developed for Chondrodysplasia (bulldog calves). Dr. Imke Tammen did an excellent job of explaining the inheritance of this trait and Julie Cavanagh reported on the DNA test she developed by working with the breeders and a team of experts in her lab. Her paper is included in the Winter and Spring Bulletins. The best part of this is that the Sydney lab is working with labs in the U.S., Canada, and several other countries to transfer this technology to companies in those countries so the test can come on line within the next few

months. Finally we will be able to stop guessing which of our animals is a carrier and move on to the production of the kind of cattle of our choice. It is important to note that she found an overlap in this trait between the long and short-legged groups, so there are truly some short-legged cattle that are free of the condition. This is a significant finding.

We made a bid to have the next World Congress in the U.S. and possibly join forces with the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy and others to host it. The International Committee will solicit proposals from the countries that wish to host this event and then make a decision on who will have the honors. We will know more about their decision soon.

The First Australian National Dexter Breed Show was held at the Mudgeeraba Showgrounds on Sunday following the Congress. It was a show of over one hundred of the best Australia has to offer. Professor Piet Wilke from South Africa and Bill Leggat, Chief Classifier for both the Holstein-Friesian Association and the Australian Dexter Cattle, judged the show. The Show Committee kept the show moving and the cattle and handlers were all presented in a very professional



manner. Since there is a grade-up program in Australia, it was interesting to see the influence of the parent breeds in the cattle that were exhibited. Some had



chosen to grade up from Angus and their cattle typically had more beef characteristics. Others had graded up from Jersey and had cattle with beautiful udders, but less meat. Some breeders got started with embryos, so their cattle were of traditional Dexter type. It was evident that those who graded up took advantage of the opportunity to make corrections in feet and legs, top lines and udders, which are so difficult to make in full blood Dexters.

Grand Champion bull was Kadina
Downs The War Lord, a two-year-old bull
shown by Helen Miller, and Grand Champion Female was Hobbit Hill Camellia, a
yearling heifer, shown by Ken Murley.
There were excellent cattle in every class
and some classes had over a dozen en-

tries. Some breeders there tend to do a lot of showing at the large cattle shows in Brisbane, Melbourne, and Sydney, as well as at numerous



smaller shows around the country.

During our stay in Australia, we were able to visit twelve studs and found the breeders to be extremely hospitable. We were not able to visit all of the properties to which we had been invited, but we certainly got to see a good cross-section of the Dexters in Queensland, Victoria, and South Australia. One of our first stops after the show was to Pocket Dexter Stud, where owners Barnie and June Pluthero are the owners of Kalinda Allan, a 14year-old bull that has had a tremendous impact on Dexters in Australia. Their main focus is on the commercial application of their 220 grade and purebred Dexters. They finished and sold 61 steers last year by private treaty and through



their local butcher. Their steers are grown on grass and are supplemented for the last sixty days with grain.

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They are able to finish their steers by the age of two.

Another of our stops was at the Jalamo Dexter dairy of Karen Venables in Christmas Creek. She has 36 head of Dexters she milks and has made a real effort to select on milk production in her cows. Her average milk production is around 10-12 liters per cow per day, but she has two cows that are producing 20 liters per day off of pasture and two kilograms of grain. Her pastures are planted to medic and ryegrass and are very productive. She puts her 36 cows on one acre for a day and then shifts them to a new paddock. She is building a cheese kitchen in a refrigerator truck box where she will produce several lines of cheese, some of which are her own creations. One is called Tabooba, a soft, fresh, mild, unripened Dexter milk cheese. Another is Wirra Birra, a ripened, white rind cheese. Her pride and joy is Christmas Creek Feta, which was the Champion unripened cheese at the Oueensland Royal Show in 2001. Still others include a Marinated Fetta and Hillview Sour Cream Cheese, a mistake that turned into a wonderful spreadable cheese. She has developed a HACCP program and falls under all of the regulations that a regular cheese plant does. She is following biodynamic farming practices,



which should make her products more appealing to some audiences. She will launch her marketing

campaign soon at farmers markets, wineries, and upscale restaurants.

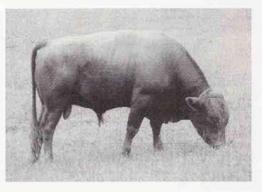
As it turned out, the Grand Champion bull of the show lived right in our path of travel, so we could go past Kadina Downs and take another look at him and all of his herdmates. Owners Helen and Scott Miller gave us a very informative tour and we learned a lot more about the gradingup program used in Australia. Although they did not have a large herd of cattle, they had very high quality run on a very neatly groomed 15-acre lifestyle property.

We were not able to meet up with Ken Murley, the owner of Hobbit Hill Dexter Stud and the breeder of the Grand Champion Female at the show. However, he arranged for us to stop and take a look at some of his herd, which had been moved to another location where the drought had not hit as hard and there was still plenty of pasture. Hobbit Hill is well known all over Australia, since they have excellent cattle, do an excellent job of caring for

them, and exhibit them in a very professional manner. Ken helps the other breeders in his area by letting them



use his bulls and giving them management advice. We went from there to the Yarra Valley Dexter Stud where the Hill family gave us a grand tour of their wellmanaged pastures and small Dexters. They like the small cattle and strive to produce the best they can. Their herd is quite impressive and we saw the best looking bull of anywhere on the trip. He is a dun bull named Who-Dun-It and they



are
anxious
to see
how his
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correct

cows to him they should get some outstanding calves.

Although space will not allow a rundown on all of the Dexters we saw in

Promotional Items

Please make checks or money orders out to ADCA, and mail them with your order. Prices do not include shipping.

Mark Muir

10509 Rte 6 Union City, PA 16438 (814) 438-2185 markedlyn@cs.com

Shipping

1 to 3 items \$ 5.00 4 to 8 items \$ 8.00 9 to 12 items \$12.00

Hats

Assorted Colors, with Dexter logo \$8.00

Crew Sweatshirts

Medium weight • 90/10 Blend • Full Dexter head logo • Ash with black logo \$20.00

T-shirts

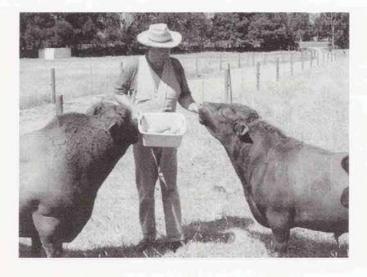
Fruit-of-the-Loom • 5.6 ounces 50/50 Blend (easier to clean out stains) Full Dexter head logo Ash gray w/black logo Small, medium, large, X-large, XX-large \$10.00

Hooded Sweatshirts

Medium weight 90/10 blend Full Dexter head logo Ash with black logo \$25.00

Australia, this might give a little glimpse of the cattle and people we were able to exchange ideas with while we were there.

We do want to extend a sincere thanks to all of the people who hosted us while we were in Australia. Several of the Dexter families fed us, gave us a place to stay, and took us around to see all of the other herds in their area. I hope they will get the same treatment if any of them come to visit the herds in the ADCA.



Denim Shirts

Embroidered head (please specify either red or black head)

Short sleeved - \$25.00

With your farm name - \$30.00

Long sleeved - \$28.00

With your farm name - \$33.00

Deadlines

Deadlines for submission of articles, photos, and advertising for the Bulletin are as follows:

Spring Issue: February 15
Summer Issue: May 15
Fall Issue: August 15
Winter Issue: November 15

Ideally the Bulletin will be mailed:
Winter Issue - December 15
Spring Issue - March 15
Summer Issue - June 15
Fall Issue - September 15

DON'T GET LEFT BEHIND!



DEXTER CATTLE BREEDERS WILL MEET FOR OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA • JULY 18 & 19, 2003

PAYNE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS EXPO CENTER EAST SIDE OF CITY, ON 6TH STREET (Hwy. 51)

DEXTERS ON DISPLAY BOTH DAYS

EVENTS PLANNED AS FOLLOWS:

Show (with a full agenda of classes)
Sale (of heifers, bulls, cows
and cow/calf pairs)
White Elephant Auction (large selection
of items donated by breeders
Meals served at the expo center
Seminars

9 A.M. SATURDAY 19TH

11 A.M. SATURDAY 19TH

DEXTER GENETICS • WHY TO CLASSIFY
WORLD CONGRESS • DEXTER FEEDOUT REPORT
IMPORTANCE OF MINERAL USAGE • PROPER PLACEMENT OF VACCINATIONS

FRIDAY EVE., SATURDAY NOON & EVENING FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 18TH & 19TH

TRADE SHOWS BOTH DAYS. COME SEE WHAT THESE VENDORS HAVE TO OFFER.
ANYONE INTERESTED IN OBTAINING BOOTH SPACE AT THE TRADE SHOW
PLEASE SEND YOUR REQUEST TO JOANIE STORCK.
BOOTH SIZE IS 12' X 15'. ELECTRICITY, TABLES AND CHAIRS WILL BE FURNISHED
FOR A COST OF ONLY \$50.00

AN EXACT SCHEDULE WILL BE PRINTED IN THE NEXT BULLETIN.

THE HOST MOTEL IS: BEST WESTERN STILLWATER 1-800-353-6894

JUST 4 SHORT MILES FROM THE EXPO CENTER (TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED)

DEADLINE TO RESERVE YOUR ROOMS IS JUNE 24TH,

BUT DON'T WAIT THAT LONG (WE HAVE 40 ROOMS BLOCKED) • ROOMS ARE \$62 + TAX

STILLWATER IS A SMALL TOWN WITH ALL THE BIG CITY ACCOMMODATIONS INCLUDING THE FAMOUS ESKIMO JOE'S FEATURED ON 20/20. NO TRAFFIC JAMS AND EVERYONE IS GLAD TO SEE YA. THE OKLAHOMA CITY AIRPORT IS ONLY 70 MILES FROM THE EXPO CENTER AND WE WILL PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE AIRPORT IF YOU CHOOSE TO NOT RENT A CAR. INTERSTATE 35 IS JUST 19 MILES WEST OF STILLWATER, SO THE TRAVELING IS RELAXED.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT TO INCLUDE IN THE EXCITEMENT OF THE AUCTION THAT ALWAYS HIGHLIGHTS THE SOCIAL TIME AT OUR YEARLY MEETINGS.

IF YOU PLAN TO JOIN US, PLEASE CUT OUT THE CONFIRMATION FORM BELOW AND MAIL IT TO:

JOANIE STORCK, 401 W. 89™ St. So. HAYSVILLE, KS 67060

IF YOU PLAN ON SHOWING OR SELLING, PLEASE FILL IN THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS PAGE, REQUESTING INFORMATION ON CLASSES AND RULES.

CONFIRMATION OF ATTENDENCE AND/OR MEAL RESERVATIONS FOR THE 2003 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ADCA REGION 6	
DAY EVENING. SATURDAY'S MENU WILL INCLUDE SOME NATIVE O	
_ PERSONS FOR THE FRIDAY EVENING MEAL @ \$10 EACH	AMOUNT
PERSONS FOR THE SATURDAY NOON MEAL @ \$10 EACH	AMOUNT
_ PERSONS FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING MEAL AT \$10 EACH	AMOUNT
	TOTAL
STITHE NAMES OF ALL THE ATTENDERS SO WE CAN HAVE NAME F	BADGES PREPARED
	PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING. THE PLANS AT THIS DAD DAY EVENING. SATURDAY'S MENU WILL INCLUDE SOME NATIVE OF JUDINARY EVENING. WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US. PERSONS FOR THE FRIDAY EVENING MEAL @ \$10 EACH

Committee Report - Show and Sale Committee By Pat Mitchell

The Show and Sale Committee has wrapped up preparation of show and sale regulations for the 2003 Show and Sale. This document is intended as a "work in progress" that will be evaluated and modified if needed after the conclusion of this year's event. If there is a need to change or expand an area, it will be done at that time. If something was omitted from this year's requirements, it can be added. The Board of Directors can use this blueprint to finalize rules and regulations for future shows and sales so that consistency from event to event is assured.

One of the most discussed items in the show/sale regulations was the grooming requirement. The majority of the committee members favored showing the animal in as natural a state as possible, with minimal clipping and no shaving allowed. Some members felt that not allowing clipping would cause some breeders not to bring animals to show.

We have come to a compromise position that will allow clipped animals to be

shown, providing they have been clipped prior to coming to the 2003 show. We want to provide a "level playing field," where the novice breeder who washes and brushes his cattle can compete with the breeder who does a lot more to prepare the animal. After all, the show is all about the Dexter cattle, not how fancy they can be "dressed up." This is one area that will have to be addressed at the conclusion of the event, so that future shows meet the desires of the majority of the membership.

Please take time to review the new guidelines. If you have any input (good suggestions for changes that will benefit the Association as a whole) you are encouraged to forward them to one of the members of the committee, or directly to me at shamrockacres@hotmail.com

The members of the Show and Sale Committee are Joanie Storck, Sandi Thomas, Dean Fleharty, John Foley, Mark Muir, and Wes Patton. Pat Mitchell chairs the committee.













CONFIRMATION OF PARTICIPATION IN THE AGM CATTLE SHOW AND/OR SALE
YES, I PLAN TO BE INVOLVED IN THE SHOW/SALE. PLEASE SEND METHE INFORMATION OF CLASSES AND RULES FOR THIS EVENT.
NAME:
ADDRESS:
TOWN & ZIP:
I AM INTERESTED IN THE SALE ONLY:
I AM INTERESTED IN THE SHOW ONLY:
I AM INTERESTED IN BOTH EVENTS:
THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN THIS EVENT. THE INFORMATION WILL BE MAILED TO YOU UPON RECEIPT OF THIS REQUEST.

2003 ADCA Annual Dexter Video Show

The 2002 Video Show was held in Oregon in conjunction with the ADCA Annual Meeting. Once again, the video show was a very important and entertaining part of the meeting. It allowed members who were present and those who could not make the trip an opportunity to compete on an association-wide basis and see how their animals compared. The FFA judging team from Oregon judge did an outstanding job of placing and critiquing the show, and they made it into a very educational and entertaining event. It certainly renewed our faith in Dexter cattle and the youth of our country.

Please Note!! This year the meeting is going to be in July, so you will have ample opportunity to video your animals at their best. The entry deadline is going to be June 25, 2003, so everyone should have a chance to compete. The age of the animals will be as of June 15, 2003.

As in previous years, emphasis will be placed on the quality of the animals, but the better they perform for the camera, the better they will look to those judging. It is not necessary to have them on halter when they are videotaped, but if they are halter trained it may take less time to get the perfect shots. It is important that they be shown next to a fence, measuring stick, or some other device to give those judging a height reference.

Any ADCA member can enter. Only one animal can be shown per tape and it is not essential to enter every animal in your herd, except in the Best Herd class. The tapes will not be mailed back to you, but they can be picked up at the annual meeting, and the ADCA reserves the right to use any or all tapes for promotional purposes.

Video Rules:

 The animal must be identified in the video through signage or audio identification indicating:

- a. Class
- b. Animal name
- c. Registration number
- d. Date of birth
- e. Height at shoulder (real or estimate)
- f. Weight (real or estimate)
- 2. The videotape must be the standard (large) size that will play in a normal VCR. No small cassettes please! If you have a small one, have the tape copied onto a large size before sending it in.
- The first shot should be a 30 second side view from about 20 feet away.
- 4. The second shot should be a **15 second** view of at least two feet (front and rear) while the animal is standing on a hard surface.
- 5. The third, a 20 second rear view from about 12 feet away showing the rear quarters, legs and udder or testicles if applicable.
- 6. The fourth, a 20 second front view showing head, shoulders, and front legs.
- The fifth and final view is a 30 second side view of the animal moving in a clockwise direction.

The entire tape should not exceed 2 1/2 minutes. The class, animal I.D., DOB, and exhibitor name and address should

appear on the tape. If the animal is for sale, that should be indicated on the tape label.

Classes: (ages will be as of 6-15-2003)

- 1. Bull calf, less than one year
- 2. Yearling bull, 1 to 2 years
- 3. Bull, 2 to 4 years
- 4. Mature bulls, over 4 years
- 5. Heifer calf, less than one year
- 6. Yearling heifer, 1 to 2 years
- 7. Cows up to 4 years
- 8. Cows over 4 years
- 9. Cow/calf pair, any age
- 10. Best herd (separate tape of entire herd, including bull if you have one)

Entry date: Postmark 6-25-03

Mail to: Wes Patton, 7069 County Rd 20

Orland, CA 95963

Questions: Call Wes at 530-865-7250 or

email at jpatton@orland.net

Entry fee: \$10 per entry.

Make payable to ADCA

Judging: Judging will take place during the annual event and the classes will be critiqued and awards given.

2003 AGM Drawing

A drawing will be held at the 2003 ADCA Annual Meeting to be held in Stillwater, Oklahoma. A Montana Silversmith's men's belt buckle and a ladies' watchband with watch have been donated by the B Moore Ranch for the drawing. In order to allow all members to participate in this drawing, donations of \$5 or more will be accepted by mail, as well as those donations accepted during the meeting. Your name will be entered one time for each dollar donated. Make your check payable to Region 6 TOK. You need not be present to win, as each item is easily mailable. Thank you for your support.

Send donations to: Gail Moore Route 1 Box 95 • Kenefie, OK 74748





American Dexter Cattle Association

2003 SHOW AND SALE RULES AND REGULATIONS

(Revision 4; 2/13/03)

The following are rules and regulations that will pertain to the Dexter Cattle show and/or sale that are sanctioned by the American Dexter Cattle Association for the 2003 AGM at Stillwater, OK.

I. GENERAL GUIDELINES

- A. Exhibitors at ADCA sanctioned events must be current members of the Association.
- B. **All** animals must be properly identified using ear tags, neck chains, brands etc. **and** must be legibly tattooed with the exact alpha-numeric identification that appears on the registration papers. Failure to have a legible and accurate tattoo will be grounds for dismissal from the event.
- C. All animals shown at the ADCA-sanctioned events must be halter broke to lead (with the exception of pen classes, where animals should be broke to tie at halter). Any animal deemed unmanageable by the Show and Sale Committee before or during the show will be required to leave the show arena. Cattle dismissed in this fashion are not eligible for sale or show placing, and all entry fees will be forfeited.
- D. All animals will compete in the same show, regardless of sale status.

 There will be one show, with one final set of placings, for all entries. There will not be any separate shows for animals that are not for sale. Animals may compete in the show but not be sold. This is designed to encourage breeders to bring their best animals to the show, without the requirement to sell them.
- E. All cattle (except steers) must be registered with the American Dexter Cattle Association prior to entry. A copy of the Registration papers, in the sole name of the Exhibitor or the Partner-

- ship, must be furnished with the entry form for the show and sale. Calves under six months of age that are to be shown in cow/calf class do not need to be registered. However, if they are not registered, they are not eligible to be shown in individual classes.
- F. All entry forms and fees must be received by the deadline designated for the event. No exceptions will be made. No animals will be accepted for ADCA sanctioned events that have not been properly entered. Entry fees for animals not brought to the show/sale will not be refunded.
- G. Health certificates will be required for all entries, and will be checked and approved by the designated show veterinarian prior to unloading.

 Animals from quarantined areas are not permitted to enter the show. Outof-state entries must comply with the regulations of the state in which the show/sale is taking place. See "Health Regulations" for further explanations.
- H. Each ADCA-sanctioned event will have a designated Show and Sale Committee. This Committee will have final authority to uphold established rules and regulations. The Chairman of the Committee will decide questions and/or disputes.
- I. Females advertised as "Safe in calf" must have a veterinarian's pregnancy check certificate. Bulls over 18 months of age must have a veterinarian's fertility exam report.
- J. All bulls 12 months and older must have an affixed nose ring or nose clamp.
- K. All cattle must be double tied (neck rope plus a halter). All cattle and stall areas must be kept clean and presentable during the event.
- L. No drugs are to be administered **except** under the guidance of the Show Veterinarian.

- M. Every precaution will be taken to protect participants and their animals. However, neither the ACDA, the Show and Sale Committee for the location of the event, nor the supervisors or their assistants, will be responsible for accidents or loss associated with the participant and their animals.
- N. The American Dexter Cattle Association and the auctioneer(s) act only to bring the buyer and seller together. Any warranties or claims pertaining to any animal are strictly between seller and buyer. Buyers should satisfy themselves regarding the soundness and condition of an animal before bidding on that animal.

II. SHOW GUIDELINES

- A. Entry fees and/or commissions will be established by the Show/Sale Committee and published in advance.
- B. Exhibitors are encouraged to show cattle in their natural state. All animals are to be washed clean and brushed. Painting or polishing of horns or hooves is prohibited. Trimming, cleaning and light oiling (with clear oil, not colored polish or colored oil) of horns and hooves is acceptable. Teasing or balling the tail switch is not acceptable. Limited trimming of long, stray or guard hairs along the top and bottom lines, udders, sheaths and lower side of animals where the hair changes directions is acceptable. Ear, poll, or body clipping is prohibited at the show site. Animals that have been clipped prior to coming to the show will be accepted, but clipping is not required or encouraged. No other physical or cosmetic alterations may be made. No artificial coloring of any part of the animal is allowed. Adhesives are not acceptable. Sheen and sparkle additives are acceptable, but not required. Sprays or concentrates specifically formulated and sold as fly inhibitors are acceptable for use.

- C. The Show and Sale Committee will advise the judge regarding grooming requirements and expectations prior to the show. This will encourage the judge to look at the animal closely, not at the grooming capability of the exhibitor.
- D. All cattle will compete in the same show, regardless of sale status. There will be only one set of show classes, and one set of show placings.
- E. All animals must be broke to show (lead) at halter (with the exception of animals entered in pen classes, which shall be broke to tie).
- F. All cattle (except calves at side) will be measured in inches at the shoulder. Measurements will be performed by the Show/Sale Committee and will be published at the time of the show.
- G. Classes for each event will be established by the Show and Sale Committee and will be determined by the number and ages of the entries. Suggested classes are as follows:
 - Heifer calf less than 6 months of age
 - 2. Heifer calf 6 months to one year
 - 3. Yearling heifer
 - 4. Young cow two to four years of age
 - 5. Mature cow over four years of age
 - 6. Cow/calf pair
 - 7. Grand and Reserve Champion Female Dexter
 - 8. Bull calf less than 6 months of age
 - 9. Bull calf 6 months to one year
 - 10. Yearling bull
 - 11. Mature bull
 - 12. Grand and Reserve Champion Male Dexter
 - 13. Market steer
 - 14. Pen classes as necessary per the above (depending upon quantity and type of pen entries).

Continued on next page



III. SALE GUIDELINES

- A. Each sale entry must include the signed, original ADCA registration certificate. A short description and a photo may be required for sale animals to be used in the Sale Catalog. A photocopy of the original registration paper is to be sent with the entry forms, but the signed original ADCA registration form is required at time of sale for proper transfer to the new owner.
- B. Sale animals will be identified via colored stall cards or number cards furnished by the Show and Sale Committee for the particular event. The Show/Sale Committee will establish Sale commissions in advance. The Show and Sale Committee will establish sale order. The sale order and other pertinent information regarding the sale will be communicated in the flyer announcing the event.
- C. Sellers will have the opportunity to establish minimum sale requirements upon entry. Sellers will have the option, after all bidding is completed, to accept or decline the sale price if it is lower than the established minimum sale price. This option will be announced at the time of the sale.
- D. Changes to established minimum pricing will not be made without written consent of the seller.
- E. All buyers' numbers will be issued upon proper verification of identification. Pictured identification is desired. Anyone issued a buyer number is considered liable for all accepted bids and purchases made under that number.
- F. The Show/Sale Committee for the particular event will establish payment terms.
- G. The Show/Sale Committee will settle all disputes.
- H. No animal may leave the barn or be removed from the grounds without LOAD OUT ORDER, which will be

- issued by the cashier at the time of payment.
- Owners of animals that do not meet the minimum bid price and are not sold will pay 5% of the last bid or \$25, whichever is less.
- J. Sellers are responsible for animals until the show/sale is completed (when the animal leaves the sale ring), then the buyer is responsible.
- K. No private treaty sales will be allowed during the show/sale event. All animals offered for sale must go through the auction ring. If the animal fails to bring the established minimum during the auction and does not sell, the owner may opt to sell the animal at private treaty after the sale, at a price agreed upon by both buyer and seller, off the grounds of the event.

ANIMAL HEALTH REGULATIONS FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. HEALTH CERTIFICATES

- A. The term "Health Certificate" or "Certificate of Veterinary Inspection" means a legible record made on an official form of the state of origin, issued by an accredited veterinarian, which shows that the animal(s) listed meets the testing, vaccination, treatment, and requirements of the state of destination. Unless otherwise stated in the following rules, a health certificate or certificates of veterinary inspection must accompany all animals to be exhibited and be available on request by animal health officials.
- Brucellosis: All breeding animals must meet the requirements for the state in which the Show/Sale occurs, except:
- Animals from a certified brucellosis-free herd: The certified herd number and date of the last test must be shown on the health certificate.
- B. Animals with active lesions of ringworm with resulting loss of hair or

- warts easily visible without close examination will not be permitted to sell or show and shall be subject to isolation or expulsion depending upon the nature of the disease.
- C. The show and sale will have accredited veterinarians or other state regulatory personnel for processing animals and health certificates for change of ownership as well as health papers for transport across state lines. Any additional costs for health papers will be at the buyer's expense.
- D. The minimum health and testing requirements may not qualify livestock that are to be sold or moved to a new owner or destination. The Show and Sale Committee will investigate and comply with any added requirements for livestock that are to be in a sale in their particular location. The Show and Sale Committee will print the hosting state's specific health requirements on the entry form that is to be signed and returned.

Committees

Advertising

Mark Muir (PA), Chair

Classification

Wes Patton (CA), Chair Marvin Johnson (KS) Dean Fleharty (MO) Mark Muir (PA) Sandi Thomas (OR)

Genetics Committee

John Potter (MI), Chair Rosemary Fleharty (MO) Anthony Bauer (MI) Sandi Thomas (OR)

Finance

John Foley (MO), Chair

Special Funding

Open

Promotional Items

Mark Muir (PA), Chair Stan Cass (OH) Joanie Storck (KS) Anna Poole (OR) Donna Martin (SC)

Rules and Regulations

Donna Martin (SC), Chair Stan Cass (OH)

Science

Wes Patton (CA), Chair Dean Fleharty (MO)

Technology

Rosemary Fleharty (MO), Chair Sandi Thomas (OR) Chuck Daggett (MN)

Video Show

Wes Patton (CA), Chair Jane Patton (CA)

Website

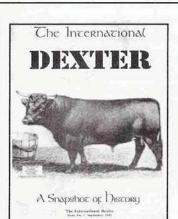
Mark Muir (PA), Chair Oogie McGuire, Webmaster

Show & Sale

Pat Mitchell (MI), Chair Mark Muir (PA) Sandi Thomas (OR) Dean Fleharty (MO) John Foley (MO) Joanie Storck (KS) Wes Patton (CA)

Redistricting of Regions

Donna Martin (SC), Chair Rosemary Fleharty (MO) Stan Cass (OH)



The International Oexter

The magazine "The International Dexter: A Snapshot of History" is available in limited quantities from ADCA's Prairie Home, Missouri office.

The cost is \$5.

Check out the article on Dexters appearing in the March/April issue of Countryside and Small Stock Journal.

2003 TYPE CLASSIFICATION TOURS

Tour Dates	Days	Area	Send App by	App Due	Send for Herd Inv	# Apps Sent 2002 / 2003	Last Classifier	2003 Class ifier
* January	14	AR, KS, MO	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 10		BM, LJ	
	8	OK, TX	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 10		JB	
* February	18	IA	Nov. 15	Dec. 15	Jan. 10		BS, BW, RJ	
	30	MN, NE, ND, SD	Nov. 15	Dec. 15	Ja. 10		DM, GH, RJ	
March	7	CT, ME, MA NH, RI, VT	Dec. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 10	275	RJ .	
	14	NY	Dec. 15	Jan. 15	Feb. 10		RJ, BM	
April	24	PA	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 10	480	BS	
	12	DE, MD, NJ, VA, WV	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 10		BS, JB	
May	14	OR, WA	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 10	131	BS	
Y TAF	7	ID, UT, MT, NV, CO, WY	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 10		BS	
June	12	CA, AZ, NM	Mar. 15	Apr. 15	May 10	80	LJ, BM	
July	8	KY, TN	Apr. 15	May 15	June 10	325	JL	
4	10	IN	Apr. 15	May 15	June 10		BW	
	10	IL	Apr. 15	May 15	June 10		RJ	
August	20	ОН	May 15	June 15	July 10	315	BS, JB	
	6	MI	May 15	July 15	Juy 10		GH	
	7	AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC	May 15	Juy 15	July 10		JL	
September	40	WI	June 15	July 15	Aug. 10	350	BS, BM, RJ, JL	
October	14	AR, KS, MO	July 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 10	225		
	8	OK, TX	Juy 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 10			
November	18	IA	Aug. 15	Sept 15	Oct. 10	350		
	30	MN, NE, ND, SD	Aug. 15	Sept 15	Oct. 10			
* December	7	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	Sept 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 10			
	14	NY	Sept 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 10			

Cl	assifiers	No.	City
1.	BS George Harris	056	New Milford, CT
2.	BS Leonard Johnson	114	Edgerton, WI
3.	BS Bernard Monson	092	Gowrie, IA
4.	BS Roger Neitzel	117	Beloit, WI
5.	BS Ron Johnson	073	Ottumwa, IA
6.	BS John Batchelder	071	Orland, CA
7.	G Seth Johnson	112	Reynoldsburg, OH
8.	G. Brian Schnebly	126	Reynoldsburg, OH
9.	G. Bill Wachtel	119	Big Prairie, OH
10.	. BS Jerry Luttropp	13	Berlin, WI

Please contact the ADCA to get your herd scheduled.

News From Directors

Region 6 Welcome to the 2003 Annual General Meeting

Joanie Storck, Region 6 Director

The state of Oklahoma would like to welcome all of you to the "Native State."
Our Native American roots run deep in this area, and our museums reflect some of the history of these truly talented people. We encourage you to plan some extra time while traveling to the central United States to visit some of the outstanding museums.

We are planning a large gathering of Dexters and owners for this year's Annual General Meeting, Show and Sale, so please mark your calendars and plan on sharing in the excitement of this rapidly-growing association. The current agenda includes the Show and Sale, along with a presentation of the statistics from the Dexter Steer Feedout done by Oklahoma State University this past year. Wes Patton and Rosemary Fleharty will fill us in on the information from the Dexter World Congress that was held in Australia last year. We will also have people ex-

plaining the need for minerals, proper vaccination techniques, and why we should classify our cattle. John Potter, Chairman of the Genetics Committee, will give us a presentation on the origins and genetics of the Dexter Breed in America. And of course we will have our yearly White Elephant auction. If you haven't attended and been part of this, you have missed a highlight of our yearly event.

An added attraction to this year's meeting will be a trade show in the air-conditioned room next to the show and sale arena. We will also be selling tickets for chances to win either a beautiful ladies' watch or a belt buckle set made by Montana Silversmiths.

The Region 6 members of Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas and the meeting committees would like to invite all of you to join us in Stillwater, Oklahoma, July 18 and 19, 2003.

Region 2 Spring Meeting will be a "Dexter Field Day"

Anna Poole, Region 2 Director

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 17. Chris and Page Ricard have generously offered to host the first "Annual Dexter Field Day" at their ranch in beautiful Haden Lake, Idaho. Chris' outstanding young red bull, Celestial IO, was awarded Champion of the "Sale Show" at the National ADCA meeting last August.

All Dexter breeders and anyone interested are warmly invited to attend. The Ricards have lined up a number of interesting guest speakers, as well as a demonstration on showing Dexters by Wendy Fultz. There will even be drawings for

some prizes.

You will not only be able to see the award-winning Celestial Farms Herd, but also visit with other breeders. You are encouraged to bring photos of your Dexters, and information about any that you have for sale.

Mailers will be going out to folks in Washington, Oregon, Montana, and Idaho with an RSVP. Watch your mail. If you do not receive a notice, consider this your invitation, and contact Chris at (208) 762-7909. He will also be happy to answer any questions, and give directions.

News From Directors

Region 13 Welcome Aboard

Rick Seydel, Region 13 Director

I'd like to start by thanking all the members in Region 13 for taking the time to send in your votes for the Director's position. I'm looking forward to serving as the Director of this Region. This is an exciting time to be involved in the ADCA because the organization is growing and changing at a rapid pace. New information is constantly being handed down, so please feel free to contact me any time by phone or email with any ideas or concerns you might have.

One of the ideas that I feel would help promote Region 13 is the possibility of a website. Chuck Daggett has generously volunteered to put together a rough draft for a possible website. I would appreciate everyone taking time to view it and give me your honest feedback. Once we get

the website perfected, it will be listed as a link on the ADCA website. If anyone has more ideas that you'd like to see implemented, contact Chuck or myself. The site can be reached at: http://www.pressenter.com/~chuckd/dist13.htm

I also located the address of the TV station in Texas that produced a show entitled "The Cattle Show." They put together a segment on Dexter Cattle and it was on satellite TV. If you'd like to order a copy of the tape, send \$14.95 to: "The Cattle Show," P.O. Box 404, Aledo, TX 76008. Make sure you tell them you want to purchase the show on "Dexter Miniatures," and include your return address along with the payment.

Again, thanks for the opportunity to serve as Director in Region 13.

Region 10 Welcome Aboard

Mark Muir, Region 10 Director

It's the first of March. The calving season at Muirstead traditionally starts around March 17th (St. Patrick's Day). We keep the bulls away from the cows till after the traditional Memorial Day, so our calves don't have to deal with the "lake effect snow" that Lake Erie is so generous with. This year we have had 151 inches so far.

Thank you to all that elected me to be their Regional Director for the next three years!

March is the time to soil test your fields, and analyze your nutrient and pH needs. It is also a time when we (Northeast US) can overseed our pastures and hayfields by broadcasting clover and/or clover over existing grasses and have the freeze/thaw cycle of frost deposit the seed in the soil. Then when the soil temperature reaches 55 to 60 degrees, there will be enough seed / soil contact for germination.

The results of Region 10's survey of available breeding stock for sale has been finalized. Feel free too contact me for locations of Dexter Breeders that have animals available now and in the near future for sale. (check website www.dextercattle.org for listings of breeders in Washington D.C., Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia). Upcoming shows and events will be listed both in the Bulletin and the Website.

Thank you for your time.

News From Directors

Region 11 Welcome Aboard

Shaun Ann Lord, Region 11 Director

My interest in Irish Dexters began after seeing an early twentieth-century photo of my Irish grandfather standing in a meadow next to very small, complacent cattle.

After raising Angus and Hereford herds over the years, I contacted Marcia Read in Claysville, Pennsylvania, and purchased breeding stock, my first Dexters. Today the black, horned Dexter herd provides breeding stock for entry Dexter enthusiasts and a developing natural freezer beef business. The steers are prime at twenty months, delivered to the local processor providing natural beef for a growing niche market.

My husband Michael and I hobby-farm three hundred acres located in the western New York State county of Chautaugua. The two farms produce Concord grapes, mixed grasses, spelts, corn, and oats. The livestock are fed only what is produced on the farms. Seeded, high-quality pastures are rotational-grazed from May until November. Besides the Dexters, there are

thirty head of Percheron Draft horses and American Saddlebreds that are used for exhibit and seedstock.

As a member of the New York State Beef Producers Association, I have served as a regional representative for the western district. My interest in the NYBP focused on youth programs and natural beef labeling, a developing market with tremendous consumer interest.

Niche marketing applies to Dexter cattle. The varied characteristics of the Dexters are an exciting venture with unlimited possibilities. Demand for natural Dexter beef exceeds supply; perhaps a network of beef suppliers in District 11 will organize.

Thank you to all those members in District 11 that have made it possible for me to represent the New York, New Jersey area. Please be in touch concerning any problems, suggestions, or opinions.

Our common ground is the beloved Irish Dexter and the future is favorable for this wonderful, versatile breed.

Region 1 Snowy Greetings

John Foley, Region 1 Director

Greeting from the hills of the Ozarks. I don't know about anyone else, but in Southwest Missouri we are sick of snow. This has been the third heaviest snowfall on record.

The Missouri Dexter Breeders Association is having a Spring Meeting on April 26 at JP Farms of James and Pauline Wilbers, in Ava, Missouri. One of the items for discussion will be who is attending the ADCA Annual General Meeting and who is taking cattle for the show and sale. Along with several other items on

the agenda, one item will be the formation of a committee for the Missouri Dexter Breeders Show and Sale in Lebanon, Missouri on June 5, 2004.

Ozark Farmfest is scheduled for October 3 through the 5 of this year. Anyone interested in bring cattle for display need to contact me by August 1.

A questionnaire will be coming out this summer to all breeders in Region 1 to ascertain what the consensus is for activities in Region 1. Please repond when you receive the questionnaire.

A DNA TEST FOR CHONDRODYSPLASIA IN DEXTER CATTLE

[This paper is reprinted from "Presenters Papers for the Second World Dexter Congress, Australia, October 11-12, 2002" with the permission of the author Julie Cavanagh. This is Part 2 of 2. Part 1 appeared in the Winter issue of the Bulletin.]

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2. PHYSICAL MEASUREMENTS

Ever since the single-locus nature of Dexter chondrodysplasia was first recognized, there has been a need to distinguish heterozygotes from homozygotes. Given the early recognition that parents of affected calves tended to have shorter legs, breeders have very sensibly tried to identify carriers on the basis of leg length or some related measurement.

However, in the absence of a definitive test for genotype, it was not possible to perform a rigorous test on the utility of physical measurements as indicators of genotype. A study described by Symes (1981), is based on obligate heterozygotes and presumed homozygotes.

Now that a definitive genotype test exists, it is possible for the first time to rigorously test the utility of the different measurements. In anticipation of a definitive test, measurements were recorded on many Dexter cattle during the course of this study. Although the DNA test removes the need for measurement assessment, it is of historical interest to assess the utility of the measurements.

Importantly, Dexter breeders would like to know the impact of the chondrodysplasia defect on the physical measurements of the animals. The Dexter Cattle Australia (DCA) breed ideal states the following in relation to type and size: "Both types of Dexter, i.e. short legged or non-short legged, are of equal merit, however, extremes of either type will be discouraged. The preferred height of cows is 97 cm - 107 cm at the rump, and for bulls 102 cm - 112 cm at the rump."

Measurements

A number of measurements were taken from 34 male Dexters and 94 female Dexters, including grade animals, of various ages. Measurements were only taken by J. Cavanagh and I. Tammen to ensure consistency. Together, we measured the height of the animal at hip and wither, the girth, and the length from wither to tail. The height of the animal was measured using a cattle-measuring stick on level ground where available; the girth with a soft tape measure pulled firmly around the girth; and the length using a firm metal tape measure. Independently, we measured the cannon bone circumference and cannon bone length, and averaged our results. These were both done with a soft tape measure. The circumference was measured at the joint of smallest circumference on a front leg cannon bone, and the length was from the bottom of the knee joint to the bottom of the cannon bone, i.e. the estimated length of the bone. Consistency of measurement was ensured by measuring from and to the same point on each animal. If we varied in excess of 1 cm, we remeasured and discussed our results before calculating an average for each animal. The metacarpal index (MCI) was calculated by dividing the average cannon bone length by the average cannon bone circumference. These measurements are a subset of Symes' (1981) measurements.

The 128 animals for which measurements were taken were also genotyped for the 4bp insertion mutation allowing measurement analysis based on actual genotype. Also recorded for each animal was sex, age and grade.

Regression Model

Regression models were formulated and fitted to the measurement data. This is the most effective way to estimate the effect of the gene on each of the measure-

Table 1. Effect of the 4 bp insertion mutation on seven measurements at maturity.

	Females			Males		
Measurement	Genotype			Genotype		
	ВВ	Bb	Difference	BB	Bb	Difference
MCI at mean age (2.54 y)	1.102	0.981	0.121	1.008	0.963	0.045
Height (wither) cm	112.08	102.65	9.42	120.72	100.92	19.8
Height (hip) cm	112.53	101.05	11.48	119.37	101.63	17.74
Girth cm	164.37	159.83	4.54	191.33	159.55	31.78
Length cm	119.49	108.94	10.55	137.28	108.07	29.21
CB circumference cm	15.71	15.54	0.17	19.56	17.08	2.48
CB length cm	16.48	13.95	2.53	16.79	13.31	3.48

ments. There was an interaction between sex and genotype for each of the measurements. This means that the effect of the gene has to be considered separately for each sex.

Table 1 summarizes the differences between non-carriers (BB) and carriers (Bb) for females and males separately for each trait measured, at maturity.

From the data analyzed, it is evident that one copy of the 4bp insertion mutation has an effect on all measurements. Given that the Australian Dexter cattle breed idea is defined by rump (i.e. hip) height, it is interesting to note that the female carriers at mature size are approximately 10 cm shorter and male carriers are approximately 18 cm shorter than homozygote normals for this measurement.

Discriminant Analysis

Discriminant analysis of the raw data was carried out. The purpose of this multivariate technique is to construct a

Table 2. Effectiveness of measurements in discriminating between carriers and non-carriers.

Trait	Percentage correct (=128)
Cannon bone length	83%
Metacarpal index (MCI)	77%
Height (hip)	67%
Height (wither)	63%
Length	62%
Cannon bone circumference	59%
Girth	56%

new variable, being a linear combination of the observed variables, that best discriminates between the groups (genotypes) of interest (Manly, 1994). For each measurement, the proportion of animals correctly classified with respect to genotype solely on the basis of that measurement, was estimated. The results are summarized in Table 2 in which measurements are ranked according to their effectiveness in discriminating between carriers (Bb) and non-carriers (BB).

From the results in Table 2, the single trait with the most useful classification potential is cannon bone length (83%). The next best discriminator is MCI (77%). MCI is regarded by many breeders as the best discriminator, but it is shown here that cannon bone length is more accurate. The measurements at the bottom of this list have almost no predictive value, as 50% is equal to chance.

A combined discriminant analysis on all seven measurements was conducted, to determine the best function of the measurements, in terms of proportion of animals correctly classified with respect to genotype. Finally, by systematically dropping single measurements from the function, the simplest function that still had the same discriminating power as the best function of all seven measurements was determined:

-30.0648 + (0.1550 x Height.hip) - (0.2639 x Girth) + (0.1569 x Length) + (2.4728 x CB.length)

A score of less than zero would indicate a carrier and a score greater than zero would indicate a non-carrier animal. This function is considerably more powerful (95%) than the best individual measurement (83%).

Height Data

The female adult (>1 year old) raw height data was graphed with the genotype of each animal shown (Figure 1). This was done to illustrate the height distribution of the female animals sampled. It is interesting to know if there are many non-carrier animals in the population that are short in stature as desired by many breeders.

Additionally, the normal distributions of adult height at hip were graphed for both females (Figure 2) and males (Figure 3) of each genotype based on fitted nonlinear models. The common standard deviation used for these distributions was estimated as 6.35 cm.

As previously mentioned, the Australian breed ideal for height of female Dexters is 97 - 107 cm at the hip and for males is 102 - 112 cm. The range of the female breed ideal is indicated in Figure 1 for unadjusted data on animals > 1 year old. Of the 73 female animals, 9 are smaller than the breed ideal range, 33 are taller than the range and 31 fit into the range. As shown in Figures 2 and 3, which are based on asymptotic hip height for all animals, the breed ideal range is comprised predominantly of carriers with a smaller number of shorter non-carriers for both females and males. The proportions of animals falling within the breed ideal for height were calculated for females and males separately. For carrier females, 56% of the distribution falls within the breed ideal, and 22% for noncarriers. For carrier males, 46% of the distribution falls within the breed ideal, and 13% for non-carriers.

Discussion and Conclusion

The analysis of the measurement data shows several outcomes of interest. The regression modelling allows us to deter-

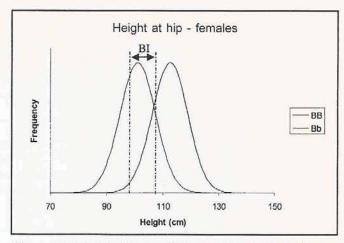


Figure 2. Distributions of the adult height at hip for females (normal = BB and carrier = Bb) based on fitted non-linear models. The breed ideal (BI) for height is indicated.

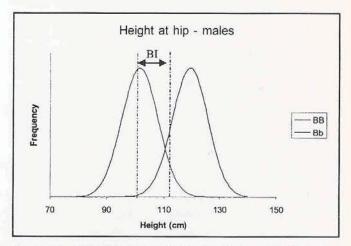


Figure 3. Distributions of the adult height at hip for males (normal = BB and carrier = Bb) based on fitted non-linear models. The breed ideal (BI) for height is indicated.

mine the effect of the 4bp insertion mutation on the physical measurements of the Dexters measured. The discriminant analysis allows us to determine how valuable the measurements are in predicting the genotype of an animal. The height data allows us to see how many females in the group of animals measured actually conform to the Australian breed ideal for height.

The regression modelling showed an interaction between genotype and sex, so females and males were separated. Grade of the animal had no significant effect on physical measurements. Presumably this is a reflection of grading up

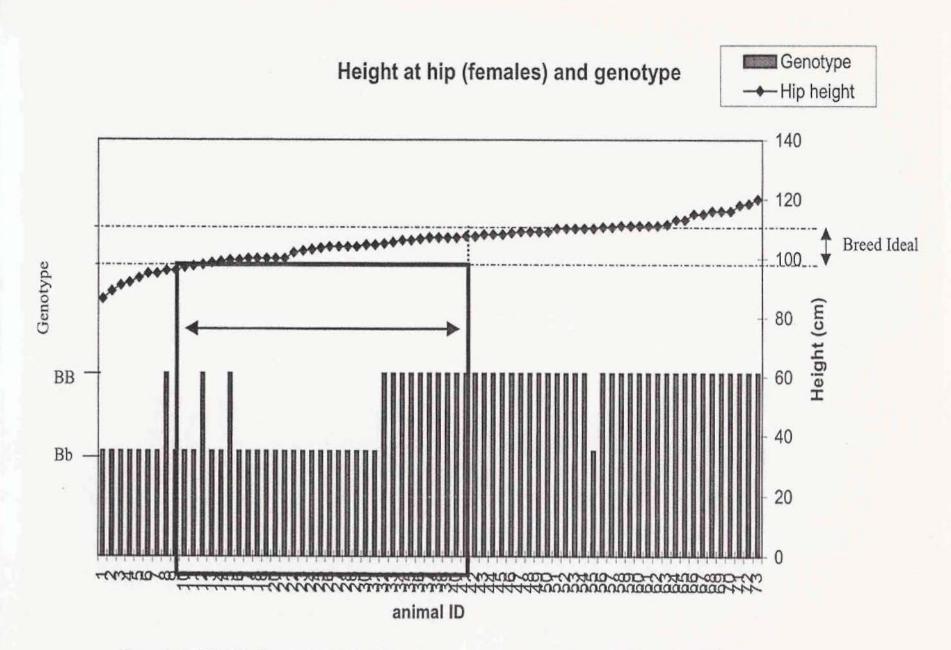


Figure 1. FEMALES: Comparison of height at hip in cm and genotype (normal BB, carrier Bb) in 73 female Dexters (>1 year old). The animals are ordered by height. The breed ideal for height (97 - 107 cm) is indicated.

being done with predominantly small breeds. As expected, the 4bp insertion mutation has an effect on all the measurements. One of the most interesting effects was on the mature hip height of the animal as this height is specified in the breed ideal for the Dexter whereas none of the other measurements are. As shown in the results, the hip height of a carrier female is approximately 10 cm shorter than a non-carrier female. The effect is even greater for males, namely a difference of approximately 18 cm. As the breed ideal has a range of 10 cm for both females (97 - 107 cm) and males (102 -112 cm), genotype can have a profound effect. The breed ideal height range is shown graphically in Figures 1, 2 and 3. In Figure 1, only 31 of 73 animals (greater than 1 year old) actually fall into this range. Of the 31 animals, 20 are carriers and 11 are non-carriers. These data indicate that the breed ideal (hip height) for females encompasses a far larger number of carrier animals and less noncarriers which is supported by Figure 2. This creates a challenge as it would be advantageous for breeders to select shorter non-carrier animals that conform to all aspects of the breed ideal and breed with these animals. With the current breed ideal, from Figure 1 the probability of a female animal within this hip height range being a carrier is 65% in the population studied. This leaves 35% of female animals within the height range to use for breeding. Figure 2 shows for females that the probability of a non-carrier being in the breed ideal range is 22% and a probability of 56% for a carrier. For males, represented in Figure 3, the probability of a non-carrier being in the breed ideal range is 13% and a probability of 46% for a carrier. This indicates a small proportion of animals, both males and females that can be selected for breeding as non-carriers conforming to the breed ideals.

The discriminant analysis showed that cannon bone length has a good ability to predict genotype (83%), followed by MCI (77%) and height (average 65%). The remaining three measurements had a

predictive value less than 62%. As previously discussed, Nicholas et al. (1996) analyzed measurement data collected by Symes (1981). Nicholas et al. found that the best genotype predictor was leg length (72%), closely followed by cannon bone length (70%), MCI (66%) and height (66%). The other ten measurements all gave predictive scores less than 57%. Unfortunately leg length was not able to be measured in this study, nor was chest depth (from which Nicholas et al. (1996) calculated leg length by subtracting chest depth from height), due to the lack of suitable equipment. Both studies showed the utility of cannon bone length, followed by MCI and then height, but in the present study the predictability for cannon bone length and MCI was markedly higher.

When Nicholas et al. (1996) combines Symes' (1981) measurements together in a discriminant function analysis, the best predictive result was 75%. However, when four measurements were used in a discriminant function analysis in the present study, namely hip height, girth, length and cannon bone length, a predictive score of 95% was shown. A predictive ability of 95% compared with 75% is extremely good for predicting the genotype of an animal. Symes' (1981) study measured 114 females of which 11 were known carriers. The present study included 94 females (29 tested as carriers) and 34 males (12 tested as carriers). Although the overall number of animals was similar it is possible that Symes did not identify all carriers in the group. The only animals identified as carriers were those that had produced affected calves. It is highly likely that there would have been carrier animals that had not yet produced an affected calf and would have therefore been classified as non-carriers. It is this probable misclassification that may have made the data from the present study more powerful in determining predictive ability of the measurements.

The ability to genotype accurately all animals that were measured in the present study provided powerful data for the discriminant analysis. Although it

would be interesting to gather more measurement data, it is unlikely to happen, as a DNA test is now available. The measurement data is not required to indicate the likelihood of an animal being a carrier for those animals that will be DNA tested. The animals measured in this study were genotyped for the 4bp insertion mutation and not the mutation carried by Meadowpark Charles. However, none of the animals measured were sired by Meadowpark Charles, and none of them were offspring from any Meadowpark animal. This does not sustain that all of the non-carriers are necessarily free of the defect, as thorough pedigree analysis was not carried out.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank Dexter Cattle Australia (DCA) who initiated the project and assisted in funding, and all the Dexter breeders who were so helpful in providing samples, measurements, accommodation, information and also animals, particularly Margaret Paynter for her time. Professor Bertram Brenig, Professor John Williams and Emeritus Professor Richard Gradwohl kindly provided DNA samples to verify our disease-causing mutation in non-Australian samples. Thanks to the New Zealand Dexter breeders who supported the project by providing samples. Thanks also to Bill Barendse who assisted in mapping the candidate gene.

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In Memoriam

Sophia Stillerman, former Director and Vice-President of the ADCA, passed away in November "after an adventurous and fruitful life of 81 years." Sophia was active in the Dexter Cattle Association since 1982 -- for more than 20 years we saw her face grace annual meetings. Sophia was instrumental in the rewriting of the current By-Laws and served on many committees over the years. She was a kind and concerned individual who cared about Dexters and the ADCA. Mannie indicated "an interesting and satisfying part of Sophia's life was the association with some of the wonderful people in the Dexter Association." We

will all miss Sophia, but her contributions will be remembered by many of us.

> "Some people come into our lives, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never the same." - Author Unknown



Announcements

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J - 1999	W - 2010
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SALES REQUIREMENTS FOR SEMEN

Advertising pertaining to the sale of Dexter semen in ADCA publications requires the statement of the height of the bull from the shoulder to the ground and the age at which the height was recorded. The ADCA also requires that the DNA genotype of any bull being used for out-of-herd AI be on file in its registry office before calves from those matings can be registered. The application for DNA Genotyping for Parentage Verification for Dexter bulls can be obtained from John Potter by email at

jpotter@remc11.k12.mi.us

or by standard mail at 2524 W. Elm Valley Road, Galien, MI 49113. The number of bulls to be tested must be specified in the request.

Classified Ad Rates

Classified advertising is limited to Dexters or Dexter semen exclusively, and subject to approval by the ADCA. Prices for animals will not be published.

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Editor's Corner

Thank you all for the kind welcome you have given me following my first issue of the Bulletin. I deeply appreciate your encouragement.

I would like to invite all members to send me photographs they feel might be suitable for publication in the Bulletin. I am specifically seeking seasonal photos for front covers, and humorous or interesting photos for the back cover.

And jokes! Have you heard a good cow joke? Pass it on! I'm always in need of things I can archive for future issues. As always, of course, your input and articles are welcome.

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Classified Advertising

(see rate chart on pg. 32)

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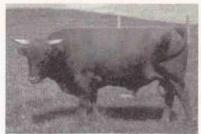
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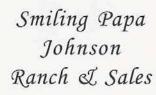
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#3864 EX

Black, 44 1/2" tall • 1050 lbs. @ 4 years \$15 / straw + S&H Note: His offspring do not carry EX

Evelyn Colclough

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The Last Word

Buddies: Bear, a 150-pound Great Pyranees male, shares a lick at a protein tub with Toggi, a 15-month-old red Dexter heifer. Both are owned by John Potter.

The Dexter Bulletin
Patrice Lewis, Editor
American Dexter Cattle Association
404 High Street
Prairie Home, MO 65068

Address Service Requested



3*7******************ALL FOR ADC 67099

JOHN S. MERRIFIELD

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