

Angus Cattle Talk

By GEOFF PHILLIPS

HOW TOUR PLACES AVAILABLE
Australian cattle producers have the opportunity to spend 13 days viewing the Angus feature show at Sydney Royal and then heading west and south visiting leading Angus properties such as Millah Murrah, Ardrossan, Rennyalea, Lawsons, Te Mania and Werrabee Farm plus Jindalee Feedlot where most CAAB cattle are finished. Already booked for this Angus Australia sponsored tour are some Canadians anxious to learn more about Australian Angus. The tour runs from March 26 to April 7 beginning in Sydney and ending in Melbourne. To ensure high levels of comfort the tour will be conducted as a small group with a dedicated tour leader. For more information contact Quadrant Agtours, 1300 301 128, or go to www.angusaustralia.com.au for a booking form.

ANGUS PLUS APRIL 4
The details can't be released yet but the April 4 on-line Angus Plus sale will include an enormous line of commercial females from heifers to mature cows all from the one property and carrying some of the best genetics available. This not only gives buyers an opportunity but other vendors may benefit from listing cattle at the same sale as it is sure to create wide-spread interest. Contact Tim Bayliss on 0419 788 366.

ANGUS NEWS NEXT WEEK
Next week's *Stock & Land*, February 28, will carry a special Angus News feature with stories about Angus and the benefits they can provide cattle producers. A full list of upcoming bull sales indicate the many options available. Contact Garry Rodda at *Stock & Land* on 03 9287 0935 with your advertising requirements.

■ *Angus Cattle Talk* is supplied for Angus Australia by marketing manager Geoff Phillips.

Coopers brewing hybrid vigour

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any more to buy the bull, but gives the producer so much more."

Mr Cooper believes "there is no logical reason to have purebred cows in the commercial sector" and points to the findings of Dr Larry Cundiff, Meat Animal Research centre, Clay Centre, Nebraska, US.

"Crossbred cows are 25pc more productive over their lifetimes, compared to their pure-bred counterparts," Dr Cundiff said.

Both men agree the commercial cow will have to evolve to be "interchangeable" in her market endpoint focus.

"She must have the ability to in one generation move from short fed-and or grass-fed domestic products to a long fed product," Mr Cooper said.

"The only way we can do that at the



■ Jeremy Cooper believes hybrid cattle can adapt better to changing market requirements.

moment is to maintain an Angus look alike with hybrid vigour and "completeness" advantage; a beef production factory.

"In the US, they have to be black, look like Angus and do everything Angus can, plus some things they can't."

Mr Cooper points to competing markets, the price and availability of grain as key to a movement away from grain-fed cattle.

"It's not cost efficient to feed cattle for 300 days and no one in Australia is being paid a premium for marbling except Wagyu. And nobody will unless there is a universal, or at least, domestic, grading system with which to reward marbling."

The Circle 8 March 17 sale will comprise 45 bulls (including 20 Angus hybrid bulls, aged 12 to 18 months) and 50 females. They plan to offer 30 bulls of each in their spring production sale.

"My clients should be able to sell beef based on quality and yield, not cattle on the colour of the hide or live weight."

Increased demand drives EYCI to 344.75c/kg

DEMAND from restockers and processors drove the young cattle prices higher last week, with the eastern young cattle indicator (EYCI) gaining 7.75 cents, or 2.3 per cent, to settle on Monday at 344.75 cents a kilogram dressed weight.

Last week saw a 20pc increase in stock numbers sold through EYCI saleyards, with most of the increase coming from northern saleyards, while supply in the south seems to be drying up, in line with historical seasonal movements.

The average price for restocker type cattle in EYCI yards rose by 9c last week to 356.25c/kg, with increased prices experienced in both northern

and southern yards. Similarly processor prices in EYCI yards were pushed 9.75c higher, averaging 339c/kg. Despite this, feeder prices were relatively steady at 181.44c/kg lwt, showing the pressure on lotfeeders at the moment.

While Meat and Livestock Australia/Sydney Futures Exchange cattle futures were slow last week, there was some activity early on Tuesday with both the May and July contracts trading at 330c/kg dwt and heading higher on the back of the rising EYCI.

■ Source: Ag Concepts Unlimited - Australian Financial Services Licence 234635. The information contained in this report is of a general nature. Users of futures should seek spe-

MLA/SFE LIVE CATTLE FUTURES					
Prices expressed in cents per kilogram (dressed)					
Expiry month	Weekly data			At COB 18/02/08	
	High	Low	Vol	Price	Change*
Mar-08	0	0	0	330.00	0.00
May-08	0	0	0	325.00	0.00
Jul-08	0	0	0	325.00	0.00
Sep-08	0	0	0	325.00	0.00
Nov-08	0	0	0	343.50	0.00
Jan-09	0	0	0	343.50	0.00
Mar-09	0	0	0	343.50	0.00
May-09	0	0	0	343.50	0.00
Jul-09	0	0	0	343.50	0.00
				0	
EYCI				344.75	7.75

* Change on last week.

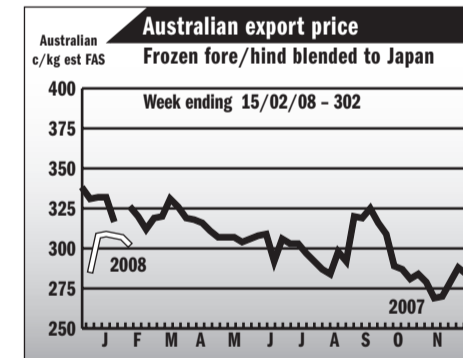
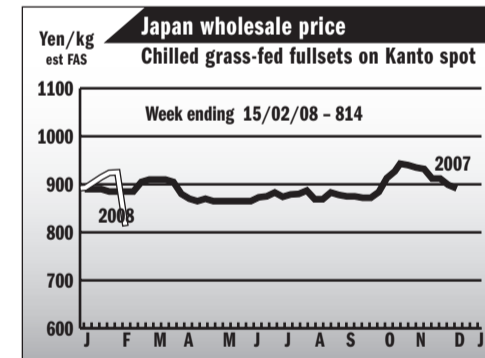
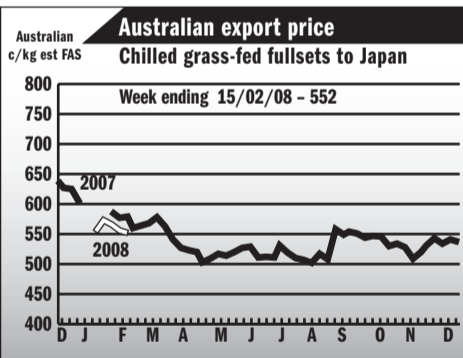
High: Highest price at which the contract was traded during the week. Low: Lowest price at which the contract was traded during the week. Volume: Volume of contracts traded during the week. OI: Open Interest. The number of futures contracts that have not been closed out (an indication of potential trades for that contract). EYCI: Eastern Young Cattle Indicator. Price: Daily settlement price at the close of business on the last day of the week. COB: Close of Business.

cific information relating to their individual circumstances from a licensed advisor before taking any action. For further information contact Angus Brown on 5333 7764.

BEEF EXPORTS

Source: NATIONAL LIVESTOCK REPORTING SERVICE and MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA

BULLOCKS 300-400kg HSCW



OVER THE HOOKS PRICES						
Time Period	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas*
This week	313	319	280	nq	275	275
Last week	313	314	280	nq	275	270
Year ago	342	313	290	300	nq	275

SALEYARD PRICES						
	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas*
This week	317	315	293	282	259	269
Last week	311	315	288	275	265	nq
Year ago	336	324	285	294	261	275

MEDIUM STEERS 260-300kg HSCW

OVER THE HOOKS PRICES						
Time Period	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas*
This week	313	316	280	nq	285	275
Last week	313	311	280	nq	nq	270
Year ago	341	310	287	293	nq	275

SALEYARD PRICES						
	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas*
This week	338	325	291	286	259	267
Last week	344	322	301	267	nq	259
Year ago	327	311	296	297	267	299

DOMESTIC STEERS 170-230kg HSCW

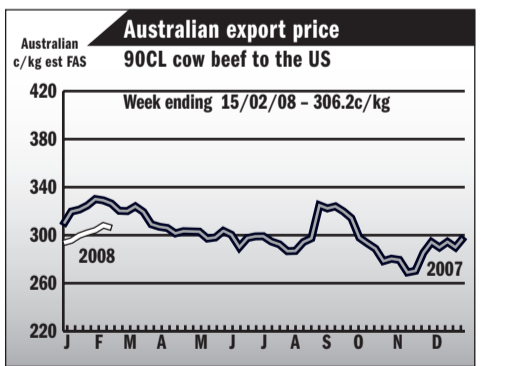
OVER THE HOOKS PRICES						
Time Period	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas*
This week	307	313	317	nq	284	280
Last week	307	309	317	nq	284	280
Year ago	313	304	317	278	290	270

SALEYARD PRICES						
	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas*
This week	365	342	325	291	287	nq
Last week	338	347	313	300	274	267
Year ago	331	331	318	298	nq	nq

MANUFACTURING COWS 240-280kg HSCW

OVER THE HOOKS PRICES						
Time Period	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas*
This week	236	235	234	220	nq	210
Last week	236	232	233	220	nq	210
Year ago	266	226	221	207	nq	170

SALEYARD PRICES						
	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas*
This week	264	269	260	253	185	235
Last week	264	267	254	249	185	230
Year ago	278	248	242	251	174	211



BALLANGEICH ANGUS

17th ANNUAL SALE - FRIDAY 14th MARCH, 2008 at 1.00pm

on property, Ballangeich

55 Bulls & 50 Heifers

Proven performance genetics

Elders Mortlake (03) 5599 2300
Graeme Delaney 0407 357 889

Catalogue & Enquiries **John Sambell (03) 5569 2309** *Mobile 0428 692 309*

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