

BREED SOCIETY REPORTS

JANUARY 2024

		<i>Ayrshire</i>		<i>Holstein</i>	
					
					
<i>Beefmaster</i>	<i>Blonde d'Aquitaine</i>	<i>Boran</i>	<i>Brahman</i>	<i>Bonsmara</i>	
					
					
<i>Charolais</i>	<i>Charbray</i>	<i>DroughtMaster</i>	<i>Limousin</i>	<i>Mashona</i>	
					
					
<i>Nguni</i>	<i>Santa Gertrudis</i>	<i>Simmental</i>	<i>Simbra</i>	<i>Tuli</i>	
					
					
<i>Kalahari Red</i>	<i>Boer</i>		<i>Dorper</i>		
					
					
ZIMBABWE HERD BOOK					

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Dorper Sheep Breeder's Association of Zimbabwe

Membership

The Society currently has 48 members of which 3 stud breeders are registered with ZHB.

Status of Performance Recording and Genetic Evaluations

There were no performance records submitted by members at this stage.

Association activities:

- 1) The Annual General Meeting has been set to be held on Friday 9 February 2024 at 1000hrs at Bramber Farm, Ruwa.
- 2) The Dorper WhatsApp group is active and being used as a channel of communication between association members and for useful information to be passed down to members from Council.
- 3) A Shepherd's Course was hosted by Rose van de Ruit at the start of December 2023 with a record number of distinctions being awarded.
- 4) A Basic/Junior Course was held earlier in 2023 with 9 members. This was a success and with further knowledge of the Dorper Breed Standards being shared with breeders.
- 5) 2023 saw the entry of Dorper rams on the National Breed Sale in July. Breeders were happy with prices and look forward to supporting the sale in the future with hopefully more registered breeders on board.
- 6) 2023 saw the number of Dorper inspections rising and we hope to see the number of breeders requesting inspections increase in 2024.
- 7) We have a number of field days planned for 2024 as well as shepherds' courses and Basic/Junior courses.
- 8) The association is planning to introduce a Junior and Senior Inspectors Course, much in the same way the Dorper Sheep Breeder's Society of South Africa does. Talks between us in Zimbabwe and South Africa are ongoing to get assistance from the South Africans on setting this up.
- 9) The association is planning to introduce an annual sheep sale that accommodates ordinary breeders who may have good rams and ewes to sell as well as fat stock.

The association is also looking into and exploring avenues on live export of lamb and mutton to the Middle East. This appears to be a long process with a lot of red tape at the moment.

Mashona Cattle Society

Membership

Paid up members for 2023 - 20

Breeders - 9

Status of Performance Recording and Genetic Evaluations

Performance recording at a basic level, no breed evaluations.

Activities

- 1) Upcoming AGM
- 2) Upcoming **Zimbabwe National Indigenous Breeds Sale**
 - Selected Bulls for Sale on our 3 Sanga Breeds (Mashona, Nkone and Tuli)
 - ZHB Registered
 - ADMA Show, Art Farm 25TH May 2024

AYRSHIRE Breed Report

Represented by one breeder.

Limited number of registered females and upgrading still in progress.

Droughtmaster Society

- 1) Membership consisting of one Stud Breeder, one Ordinary member
- 2) Herdmaster recording for Pedigree Droughtmasters
- 3) No Breed activities to report.

Bonsmara Society

The Bonsmara Society membership remains unchanged with just one breeder; however, a new breeder is currently in the process of registering a decent sized herd of approximately 100 breeding females.

Positive on-farm demand for breeding bulls and females continues.

Nkone Cattle Breeders Society

We still have 7 Registered Breeders and now around 650-660 registered cattle once final numbers come in after results of inspections are to hand.

There is definitely more awareness of our breed and we continue to receive enquiries and giving out information. The exposure from last year's Beef School and 2023 being "Year of the Nkone" has certainly made more people aware of the Zimbabwean Nkone. We are becoming well known in South Africa and Australia.

The exciting news for this year is ZNIBS the Zimbabwe National Indigenous Breeds Sale which will be held at the ADMA Show at ART Farm on the 25th May appropriately Africa Day. The three Zimbabwean Indigenous Breeds will be represented Mashona, Nkone and Tuli. Many thanks to Marco Garizzio and ADMA for their far-sighted facilitation of what we hope will become a prestigious annual event showcasing our Indigenous Breeds and even attracting foreign buyers who want our breeds from their country of origin.

Disease outbreaks, Stock theft, Uncontrolled burning of veld and poach grazing continue to be issues which require more education and control by the authorities.

The Nkone Society wish to thank Mario Beffa and his staff at ZHB for their unceasing efforts to maintain accurate herd books and their help over the years.

Wagyu Society

The society only has one active breeder and member at this stage, with another currently looking at joining the group.

Various initiatives include the breeding of fullblood Wagyu from imported genetics by way of importation of live animals as well as embryos from Australia. Programmes have also started crossing Wagyu with Angus and Tuli breeds.

Discussions have progressed with the South African Wagyu Society to register all Zimbabwe animals through them.

First Zimbabwe produced Wagyu beef products are available in the market through leading restaurants in Harare.

The first 2 Zimbabwean bred Wagyu bulls have been sold privately to local beef producers.

Santa Gertrudis Breed Society

Society Membership

One stud breeder one member, also an associate member of the South African Santa Gertrudis Breeders' Society and the Australian Breeder's Society.

Status of Performance Recording and Genetic Evaluations

Herdmaster is regularly updated with all basic performance records & society reports are submitted. We are in regular contact with ZHB.

Breed Society Activities

We have been given a copy of the South African breed constitution & will be using it as a guideline to write a breed constitution for Santa Gertrudis Zimbabwe.

Personal Activities,

- Currently 97 cows appendix & SP.
- Crossing Santa bulls on red Mashona since 2017 has made very nice appendix females.
- 4 SP bulls imported from SA and in with the females (Bought at SANTA auction in September).
- Semen imported from SA was used but only on 8 cows.
- Interest / demand for Santa bulls have increased as have had quite a few enquiries & a few private sales.

Zimbabwe Beefmasters Breed Society

Our society was re-established last year. We have 12 registered stud breeders and 1,400 registered animals. The Beefmaster breed is in high demand as it is an animal well suited for cross breeding and to our environment and to promote this, we had planned a field day early this year but due to the late rains we have had to delay it to later on in the year.

We are due to have our next meeting next month in Bulawayo and will be starting our WhatsApp group and a Zimbabwe Beefmaster Facebook page.

Simbra and Simmental Report

Society Membership

Simmental have 7 members with 758 animals registered.

Simbra have 5 members with 562 animals registered.

Status of Performance Recording and Genetic Evaluations

Herdmaster is regularly updated but still needs to be pushed for more information and not just the basic calf recording. Breed Plan analysis is constantly updated but we not using all the information available to us.

Breed Society Activities

Beef school - LJ Simbra where awarded the fertility award for large herds.

- Bianco Simmentals won various prizes at both ZITF show and Harare Show.

Mr. Obert Chinhamo once again held a very successful field day in September. With Dr J Nyika as guest of Honour standing in for P/S of our parent ministry. It's held at this time of year to highlight farmers that even in winter it is still possible to feed your animals a high nutritious diet and your animals can look good all year around.

The attendees went on tour with the process of silage making and pastures for Simmental and Simbra. Audrey Chinhamo ran the gazebo handing out fliers and responding to all questions regarding the 2 breeds.

Dr J Nyika spoke highly of the 2 breeds and encouraged farmers to take advantage of these genetics locally.

The Society would like to thank all the valued sponsors, the ministry and local leadership and the farmer, for their support, without them this field day would not be possible.

Sussex Report

Membership

There are 2 members with 96 registered animals.

Breed Society Activities

The activity for Sussex in the past year included updating the constitution, standards and bylaws and interacting with members on their WhatsApp group.

Zimbabwe Boran Breeders Society (ZBBS)

Membership

The Boran Breed continues to grow in Zimbabwe and is proving to be a very popular breed under very trying times in Zimbabwe. Membership has increased once again this year. Membership now stands at 86 active members.

Inspections:

In 2023 the inspectors were busy travelling around the country carrying out Inspections. 10 Breeders were visited and their cattle inspected. 530 animals were Inspected in 2023. This will bring the total number of Registered Boran animals close to 5690 head.

ZBBS Sale

The 8th Annual Zimbabwe Boran Breeder Sale was held on the 30th of June and the 1st of July 2023 at the CC Sales pens at MT Hampden. The ZBBS was very privileged to have world renowned Cattle Consultant and International Judge, PJ Budler from Texas at the two-day event judging the Fatstock and Heifer Competition. For the first time the sale was a two-day event. On the Friday the Boran Fatstock and Commercial Heifer sale was held. PJ Budler gave us a very informative and educational presentation on Cattle selection decisions based on objectives, resources and environment. PJ judged the Fatstock and Heifers presented for sale. He then went on to a live demonstration of functional bulls, cows and heifers. The day was very well attended and successful sale was had.

The following day on the 1st of July the ZBBS held its annual Stud Sale. The sale was extremely well attended nearly all animals presented on Sale were sold. This has been our most successful sale to date and thankyou to all those that attended to make this such a great event. On average prices were 20% higher than the previous year.

The 9th ZBBS sale in 2024 will be held again towards the middle of the year and the Fatstock sale will be held in November.

Status of Performance Recording and Genetic Evaluations

The Boran Society main interest is in Fertility. This is what we believe is most important. Days to Calving and any other information that measures fertility. Most of the data that been produced so far is completely inaccurate so irrelevant. Much of this previous data comes from ancient records from the foundation herd and SA relatives. EBVs from a few members cannot represent the breed.

Brahman Breeder's Report

Membership

Brahmans remain the largest breed society in Zimbabwe, unfortunately at the time of this report we were unable to gather the full statistics, but we have around 89 members. This is up from 77 registered members last year. 2023 there were 8544 animals.

The National Breed Sale

A strong sale again with some high-quality bulls and heifers, the average price remains high at \$5250, We did have 3 new breeders who sold bulls for the first time. The highest priced bull went for \$14 500.

Production sale

There were a number of production sales:

- 1) Midlands Cattle Sale in June- bulls and heifers sold well, cows not so well.
- 2) Ruvale Sale went off very well some record prices for heifers, bulls were very strong.
- 3) Zim Select had their second sale and prices were good esp. on some female stock.
- 4) Peter Grant annual sale

AGM was held in October with a reasonable turn out at Beatrice Country club followed by a braai and then a couple of farm visits to Wayne Greeves and Morgan Sibanda's herds.

Not enough field days have been happening but hopefully this will be addressed this year.

A new development has happened whereby a breeder has sought to speculate with bulls by importing a large number of young, unregistered bulls, a figure greater than twice what is sold at our NBS and this needs to seriously be addressed by ZHB and the state.

Brahman remain the dominant breed both in numbers and overall prices achieved but they need not rest on their laurels as the "competition" is closing fast.

Tuli Society of Zimbabwe

Society Membership

Stud Breeders – 17

Registered Cattle

Levy List Registered:	1, 815
Calf Book:	1, 319
Male:	1, 289
Female:	2, 532
Total Animals:	3, 821

Status of Performance Recording and Genetic Evaluations

PERFORMANCE CATEGORY	MEMBERS	DETAIL
A	6	Data is coming in regularly – fairly complete
B	4	Some data coming in but intermittent
C	7	Poor data returns if at all
NEW	0	New breeder

Payment of Levies for 2023

14 members have paid up their levies for 2023.

Breed Society Activities

- New constitution is in place
- AGM and General Meeting set for 26th January 2024.
- Meat tenderness ultra scanning was completed by some breeders.

Future Planning Activities

- Gweru Tuli and Braham by Phil Reed
- National Sale
- ADMA sale