



# ZIMBABWE HERD BOOK

*Newsletter, December 2022*

Dear Breeder

The Zimbabwe Herd Book thanks you for your continued support throughout 2022.

*Please note that the office will be closed from Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, and re-opens on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023.*

## **Breeds, Breeders and Animal Registrations**

The stud industry remains buoyant with continued interest and new breeders joining respective societies. The industry is currently represented by 222 breeders across 18 breeds (two goat, one sheep, one dairy and 14 beef) with 16,962 animals over one year of age (see Table 1 below). The Herd Book registered 23 new breeders this year. For expedience, one Wagyu breeder registers with the Wagyu Society of South Africa. Please see attached breed report tabled at the recently held Council meeting.

**Table 1. Registered Stud Breeds in Zimbabwe showing number of breeders and active animals over one year of age**

<b>Breed</b>	<b>Number of Breeders</b>	<b>Number of Animals</b>	<b>Breed</b>	<b>Number of Breeders</b>	<b>Number of Animals</b>
Dorper	4	546	Droughtmaster	2	202
Boer	3	286	Limousin	1	11
Kalahari Red	1	35	Mashona	9	330
Ayrshire	1	5	Nkone	7	500
Angus	3	47	Santa Gertrudis	1	65
Beefmaster	11	1,027	Simbrah	5	346
Bonsmara	1	61	Simmental	7	495
Boran	67	4,804	Sussex	2	40
Brahman	79	5,512	Tuli	18	2,650

## Beef School 2022

A capacity attendance of 160 beef producers and service suppliers attended the Beef School this year where the theme was 'Financial Sustainability in Beef Cattle Production'. The event was once again held at Mystique Conference Centre in Bulawayo from 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> September and was the first School for 90 (56%) attendees. A total of 23 presentations were given by local, regional and international speakers. Attendees note the most pertinent presentations were on grazing management.



Participants appreciated the deboning of the hind quarter, kindly donated by Grills, by blockman Fungai Nyagwande, supported by Chef Ryan Warham with display and discussion on the various cuts that were specially prepared for the luncheon and dinner.



Zimbabwe Herd Book presented its Awards for the second time and congratulations to this year's winners:

Housekeeping      3<sup>rd</sup> place: Philip & Linda Reed, Reed Brahmans and Anivai Tulis  
2<sup>nd</sup> place: Anne Cooke, Zimbo Tulis  
1<sup>st</sup> place: Lorna Joubert, Luipaardsvlei Brahmans

Performance Recording      Brahman: Four Stars – Dr Dlodlo, Nguni Brahmans  
Tuli: Three Stars – Philip & Linda Reed, Anivai Tulis

Fertility

<i>Very Large Herds</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> place: Fiona Irvine, Irvcon Simmentals 1 <sup>st</sup> place: Lianne Herbst, Herbst Simbrahs
<i>Large Herds</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> place: Jan Kageler, Oldonyo Tuli 1 <sup>st</sup> place: Dirk Odendaal, OD Brahmans
<i>Medium Herds</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> place: Wayne Greaves, Enondo Brahmans 1 <sup>st</sup> place: Themba Dlodlo, Nguni Brahmans
<i>Small Herds</i>	2 <sup>nd</sup> place: Kennedy Maguta, Maguta Brahmans 1 <sup>st</sup> place: Philip & Linda Reed, Anivai Tulis

After the awards ceremony, participants were once again treated with a pre-dinner stroll down memory lane by Dr Jackson who was honoured by an award in acknowledgement of his dedicated lifetime service to the livestock community.

To celebrate the 'Year of the Brahman', the Brahman Society led the discussion on their breed against a backdrop of a selection of stud Brahmans. The Nkone Society will show case their breed at next year's event.



The Herd Book thanks our generous sponsors who made the event possible: National Foods, Feedmix, Coopers, Windmill, Polachem, Profeeds, Grills, NMB Bank, Fivet and Agrifoods.

## 54<sup>th</sup> National Breed Sale – July 2022

Following Covid-19 restrictions in 2020 and 2021, over 500 buyers, sellers and general public welcomed the opportunity to physically partake in the Herd Book's premier event of the year, the National Breed Sale. A total of 96 bulls and 66 heifers were entered and inspected by John Crawford and Dr Jackson resulting in an elite yarding of 71 bulls and 58 heifers being offered for sale. Viewing and bidding was also available online on the SwiftVEE sales platform.

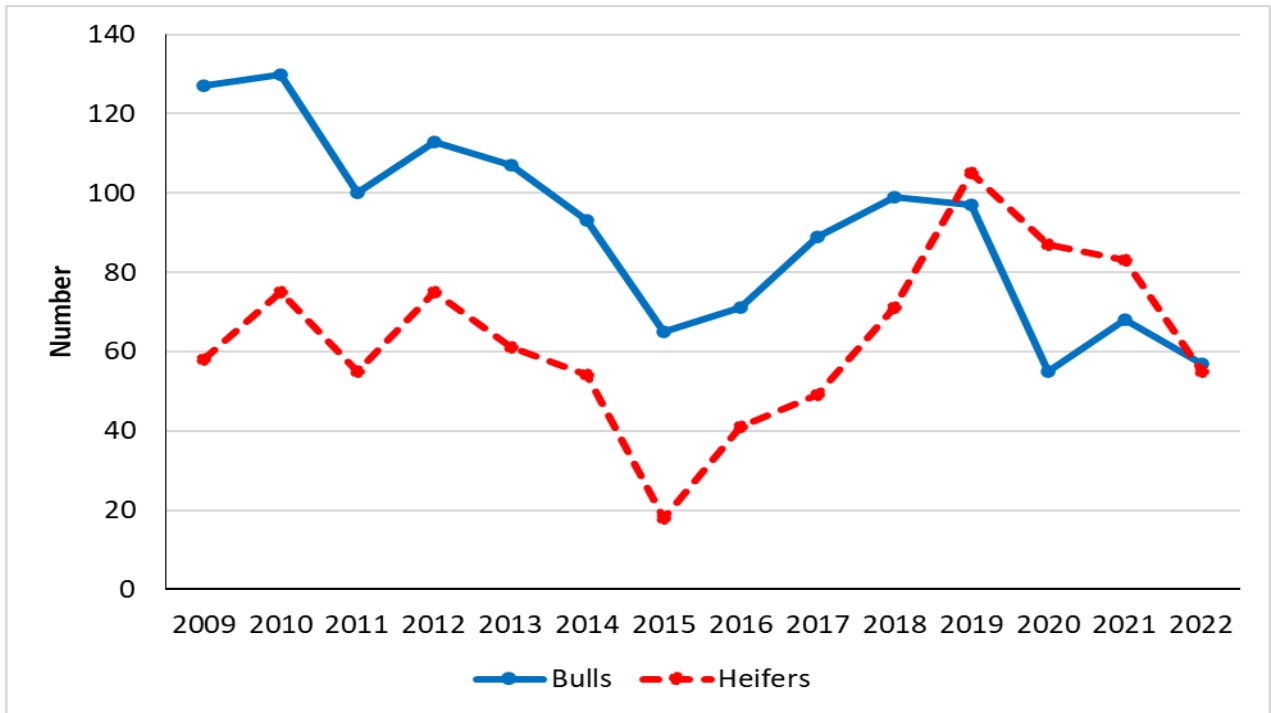
Prices remained firm and comparable with 2021, averaging USD 4,962 for bulls and USD 1,700 for heifers (see tables and graphs below). Demand for Brahman was strong with a top-price of USD 13,500 for an OD Brahman bull followed by USD 11,000 for a Ruvale Brahman bull. Top prices for bulls for other breeds were USD 8,500 for Ruvale Beefmaster, USD7,000 for Langton Boran and USD 5,500 for Jambo Tuli. For the second consecutive year, Nkone bulls were on offer with a top price of USD 3,000. It was surprising and disappointing to see limited interest for outstanding Simbra and Simmental bulls on offer.

**Table 2. Number and prices of bulls and heifers sold at the ZHB National Sale, 2009 to 2022**

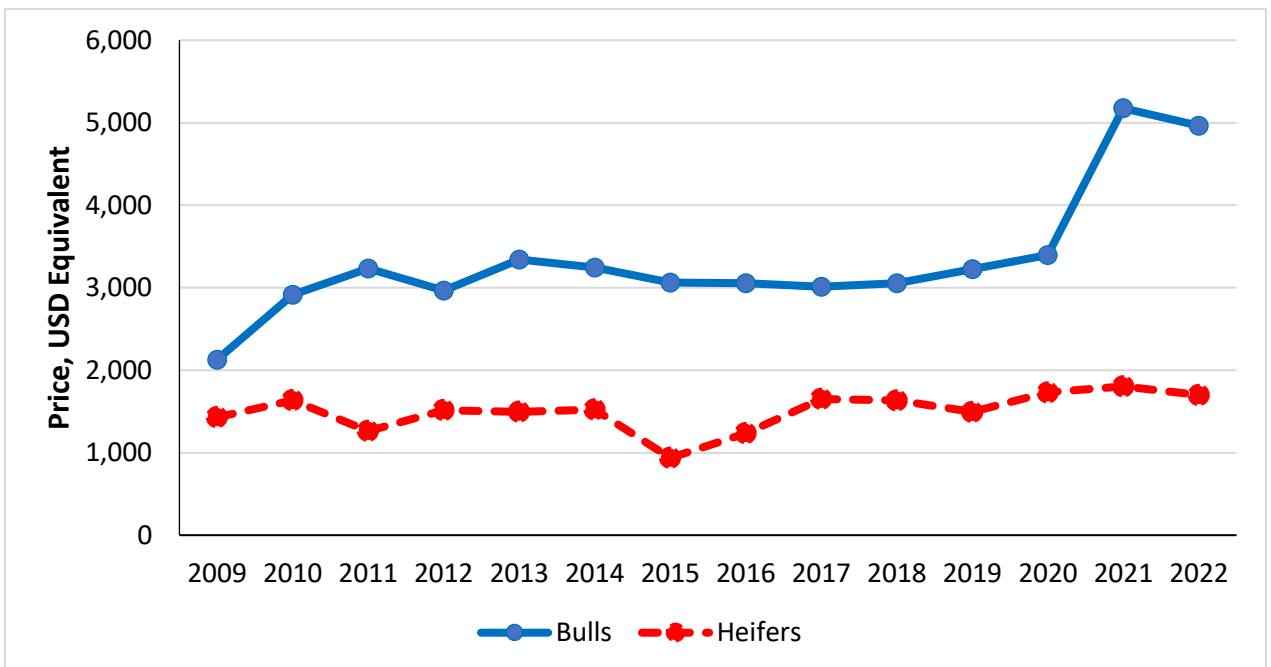
Year	Bulls		Heifers		Year	Bulls		Heifers	
	No	USD	No	USD		No	USD	No	USD
2009	127	2,129	58	1,430	2016	71	3,053	41	1,235
2010	130	2,915	75	1,635	2017	89	3,012	49	1,652
2011	100	3,235	55	1,263	2018	99	3,054	71	1,633
2012	113	2,964	75	1,516	2019	97	3,226	105	1,494
2013	107	3,340	61	1,496	2020	55	3,395	87	1,730
2014	93	3,244	54	1,522	2021	68	5,175	83	1,803
2015	65	3,064	18	936	2022	57	4,962	55	1,700

**Table 3. Number and prices of bulls and heifers by breed sold at the ZHB 2022 National Sale**

Breed	Bulls		Heifers	
	No	USD	No	USD
Beefmaster	4	5,938	9	1,400
Boran	7	4,179	5	2,440
Bonsmara	1	4,000		
Brahman	32	5,777	36	1,797
Nkone	3	2,500		
Simbra	5	3,000	5	800
Simmental	1	3,000		
Tuli	4	3,875		



**Figure 1. Number of bulls and heifers sold at the ZHB National Breed Sale, 2009 to 2022**



**Figure 2. Average USD equivalent price of bulls and heifers sold at the ZHB National Breed Sale, 2009 to 2022**

National Breed Sale 2023: Next year’s sale will be on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023**. Entries will close on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

*Note: All animals must be parentage (Sire and Dam) verified and all Bulls must be Semen tested and vaccinated against vibrio.*

## **Zimbabwe Beef Producers Society**

On the back of ZHB stud breeders, inaugural meetings of the Zimbabwe Beef Producer's Society were held in October and November. Mr Shingai Jaravaza is the interim Chair and Mr George Chiunda is the vice Chair. The aim of the Society is to provide a voice and platform to champion interests of the sector and is open to all involved in the beef value chain and will encompass all ZHB members. Further information will be circulated in due course.

## **Courses**

ZHB Breed Requirement Courses were held around the country with good attendance. Three additional capacity courses were offered in early December. Courses are designed to inform breeders of their requirements and formats for data submissions to the Herd Book. Copy of the PowerPoint presentation can be downloaded from the following link: [tinyurl.com/zhbbreederrequirements](http://tinyurl.com/zhbbreederrequirements).

Next year ZHB will be promoting performance recording and the course dates will be circulated in the new year.

## **Foot and Mouth Disease**

Chairman, Council and Breeders have and continue to make representation to authorities appealing for a pragmatic approach to control the disease, noting, that while disease control is paramount, blanket bans on movements were severely impacting on beef cattle production, breeding and trade and eroding viability of stakeholders.

## **Breeder Data Returns**

Once again, special appeal to breeders to ensure timely submission of returns:

- Births - within 60 days of birth
  - Requests for Information – ***As Soon As Possible***
- Transfers, Disposals and Fates (commercial sales, deaths) – within 30 days
- Performance records (weights at weaning, yearling and 18-months, mature cow weights, scrotal circumference and days to calving) – as soon as possible

Herewith link for copies of all data returns templates: [tinyurl.com/zhbtemplates](http://tinyurl.com/zhbtemplates)

Copies of your **Herdlists**, **RFI's** and **Inspection Lists** (all CB animals over a year of age) will be sent to you before end of the year – please take the time to go through, check and return with corrections and your updated inspection reports.

## **Real Time Ultrasound (RTU) Scanning**

Breeders are encouraged to review benefits of recording scan data on their young animals (300 to 800d of age) and book to have their animals scanned.

I encourage members to visit the following website for a wealth of information: <https://breedplan.une.edu.au/help-centre/>

Kind regards  
Mario Beffa  
Manager