

FALL 2018

THE

DEXTER CATTLE

FOR DEXTER ENTHUSIASTS EVERYWHERE

journal

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THE DEXTER CATTLE *journal*

FALL 2018

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We are always looking for interesting articles,
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Submit to: goPDCA@gmail.com

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Carrie Curlee - Crest Point Dexters at the
2018 Mother Lode Highland Games &
Celtic Festival in Amador County, CA

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PCDA UPDATE

New Registrar

PDCA is pleased to announce that Deborah Botruff, owner of Aspen Hill Farms in Holly Springs, MS will be replacing Edlyn Muir as our Official Registrar. Besides being an extremely experienced, knowledgeable and long time Dexter breeder, Deb has also

helped to create a new dog breed registry from scratch within the AKC. Deb knows firsthand what breeders expect from a registry and is looking forward to making improvements to our current system and adding features and services that she believes breeders will appreciate.

The entire Board of PDCA would like to acknowledge and thank Edlyn Muir for her dedication and assistance in transitioning the PDCA registry to our current online database in spite of her own personal challenges. The "fruits of her labor" are quick, easy, online registrations and I know we all appreciate that.

NEW Record of Birth

One small form with two big benefits.

1. When you submit a Record of Birth the recorded animal will be included in the offspring record of the PDCA registered sire and/or dam, showing a more accurate record of your animals progeny and productivity.
2. The data that you provided will allow PDCA to have more accurate statistics to better understand the needs and trends relating to the Dexter breed and to better assist the needs of Dexter breeders.

Look for this feature to be available on our website soon along with the statistics that it will offer. Members will be sent a Shout Out by email when it's up and running.

NEW Show Steer Registration

Showing cattle usually requires that an animal be registered to the person showing it. PDCA wants to support this cause by making Show Steer registration more affordable. This will be a regular registration with all the same criteria, but at a very reduced rate.

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NEW Area 5 Regional Manager

Dawn Meier of Nature's Way Farm in Albion, NY is replacing Gloria Snyder as Regional Manager for Area 5. Dawn's enthusiasm and fresh ideas are a great addition to the Board. Dawn was featured in the 2018 Winter issue of The Dexter Cattle Journal, so her full story is available for all to read.

Gloria Snyder has served as a Regional Manager since 2012. The entire Board of PDCA would like to acknowledge and thank Gloria for her years of dedication and commitment to serving Dexter breeders and for persevering thru the ups and downs of the PDCA. Gloria's insights and skill sets have been a tremendous asset to our new management team and to the decision making process at PDCA in general.

Still Updating Bylaws –

Who knew this could take so long! But we are making progress, and we'll keep ya posted.

NEW National Advertising

Our online membership survey results overwhelmingly indicate that our members want PDCA to market Dexters on a national scale. So, we are.

PDCA is now advertising Dexter cattle with Countryside Publications in their Countryside & Small Stock Journal magazine beginning in October, on their website, and prominently placed in their online "Cattle Guide – Selecting cattle for your small farm" with a full page ad (see ad on page 2). View the guide as a pdf from the PDCA website. DEXTERSTODAY.COM/COUNTRYSIDE

The Countryside & Small Stock Journal is a good fit for Dexters. With 83,000 magazines distributed nationally its audience is comprised of 63% who live in rural areas, 95% garden (most preserve their own harvest), 56% own or raise livestock, 63% are considered "self-reliant" lifestylers with an average HHI of \$61,749.

The website, countryside.com, has over 381,000 unique users viewing

over 638,000 pages monthly which tells us they are spending a significant amount of time on the site. The Live-stock section receives an estimated 150,000 views annually providing increased awareness of your products and engagement driving traffic to your website.

The plan is to expand our national and digital advertising for Dexters as memberships and registrations increase.

National Exposure

Coming in January 2019, for the first time ever, Dexter cattle will be showcased at The National Western Stock Show, the premier livestock, rodeo, and horse show in the nation, serving agricultural producers and consumers throughout the world. This event is an amazing opportunity for unprecedented exposure of the Dexter breed. PDCA is committed to promote and support this opportunity, to the best of its ability, for the benefit of all Dexter breeders. Event details on page 22.

FREE ONLINE WEBINAR

3 Steps to Build your Profitable Farm

Hosted by Charlotte Smith of 3 Cow Marketing & The Purebred Dexter Cattle Association of North America

1

It's for farmers that...

want their farm business to be successful so they can stop stressing about money and start loving sharing their product with their community.

2

You'll learn how to...

build a loyal, supportive customer base willing to pay your profitable price (no more defending your higher-than-grocery-store prices!).

3

The Latest Modern Marketing Strategies

This webinar isn't going to tell you the best way to take out an ad in the newspaper - it's focused on building a marketing plan that attracts the *right* customers for your farm.

Friday, October 26, 2018 10AM PDT

RESERVE YOUR SPOT @ DEXTERSTODAY.COM/WEBINAR

Dexter Dun

Brown Mutation Discovery

Written by John Potter



Dun color. Photo by Amy Eavou

When I began raising Dexters in 1992, I assumed that dun colored Dexters were the result of a brown mutation similar to that which exists in other species of mammals. Until the summer of 2001 all of the cattle geneticists and literature that I consulted assured me that no brown mutation had been discovered in cattle.

When Dr. Carol Davidson conducted her color studies in the late 1990's, she confirmed the genetic basis of our red colored Dexters and suggested the probability that our Dexters are relatively unique from the standpoint that Ee/Ee Dexters are red –for example, the renowned Dexter bull Cornahir Outlaw. This is the same E locus genotype that most Jerseys and brown Swiss have, and these breeds are certainly not red in appearance.

Since that time I have found that Ee/Ee animals in a number of other breeds

including Tarentaise, Red Poll, and Maine-Anjou, are phenotypically red.

In Dr. Davidson's research, dun Dexters turned up as black animals at the red locus. She then assumed that dun Dexters are the result of a dilution similar to the ones that exist in other breeds of cattle such as Simmentals, Highlands and Galloways.

In July 2001 I succeeded in convincing Dr. Sheila M. Schmutz, a prominent geneticist at the University of Saskatchewan, that Dexter dun maybe unique and would be worth investigating. I am very pleased that our resulting research project that began in Octo-

ber 2001, culminated in the discovery of the first brown mutation ever confirmed in cattle. As of the date of the conclusion of the research project, out of 121 cattle from 19 other breeds, the brown mutation had been found only in the Dexter breed.

The brown mutation had been found only in the Dexter breed

One notable observation that was first made in this research project and confirmed in subsequent testing is the fact that red is epistatic to Dexter dun – Animals that are homozygous for both red and dun are phenotypically red.

Epistasis...

where an allele of one gene hides or masks the visible output, or phenotype, of another gene. Epistasis is entirely different from dominant and recessive, which are terms that apply to different alleles of the same gene.

The Dexter dun study concluded with the publication in 2003 of *"TYRP1 is associated with dun coat color in Dexter cattle or how now brown cow?"* by the International Society for Animal Genetics in their publication *Animal Genetics*, 34, 169-175.

Tested for the Brown Mutation

Angus	Canadienne	Gelbvieh	Jersey
Belgian Blue	Charolais	Guernsey	Limousin
Blonde d'Aquitane	Dexter	Hereford	Shorthorn
Braunvieh	Flamonde	Highland	Simmental
Brown Swiss	Galloway	Holstein	Tarentaise

DEXTER COLOR BASICS *Presented By John Potter*

The following are the fundamental principles of the inheritance of color in Dexter cattle

1. Dexter cattle occur in three different colors: black, red, and dun. Two pairs of genes that are located on separate chromosomes control these colors.

Cattle chromosome 8 contains the B (brown = Dexter dun aka TYRP1) locus

Cattle chromosome 18 contains the E (extension = red aka MC1R) locus

2. Black and red is one pair of alternative colors.

In Dexter cattle, there are two different red genes. The two red genes are alternatives to each other, and they are not visually distinguishable. However they are distinguishable by a DNA test. Both red genes are recessive to their black alternative. This means that every red Dexter contains two red genes, one inherited by its sire and one inherited by its dam.

3. Black and dun is another pair of alternative colors. The dun color in Dexters is due to a brown mutation, and it is recessive to its black alternative. This means that every dun Dexter contains two dun genes, one inherited by its sire and one inherited by its dam.

4. 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 Dexters to produce a dun calf, each parent must carry a hidden dun gene.

5. 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 carries two red genes and two dun genes is red in appearance.
6. If a red Dexter that has two dun genes is crossed with a dun Dexter that does not carry a red gene, the result will be a dun calf. Each dun calf resulting from this cross will carry a hidden red gene.
7. 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. Every red calf that is produced by two dun parents will have two dun genes. (see #5 & #6 above)
8. When a red Dexter that does not carry a dun gene is crossed with a dun Dexter that does not 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.
9. A non-black Dexter calf must be red if its sire or dam is known not to carry dun. Conversely, a non-black Dexter calf must be dun if its sire or dam is known not to carry red.
10. Additional genes, independent of the genes for the basic colors, may be present in an animal's genotype and may modify the appearance of the animal. Such genes include but are not limited to those which are responsible for brindling, black noses in reds, black shading in reds, and the shade of color of reds and duns. Modifier genes do not alter the principles contained in the preceding nine concepts.



Red color. Warren Coad of Freedom Farms with FF Galaxy

About John Potter

John Potter of Spruce Grove Farm in Galien, Michigan has been a Dexters breeder since 1992. John has raised several different breeds of cattle in his lifetime; Lowlines, Red Polled, Tarentaise and British Whites and is currently experimenting with crossing Dexters with British Whites. Although his Dexter herd is comprised of all three colors, John is intrigued with breeding for dun color that is on the extreme light or dark spectrum, which he calls Wheat and Chocolate. Yummy.

John's passion for breeding rare colors does not stop with cattle, he also raises purebred yellow, black, chocolate, white and red Labrador Retrievers.

An artistic, stylized illustration of several sperm cells in shades of orange and yellow, swimming across the page. The background is a solid light orange color.

Artificial Insemination

PART THREE

In Part 1 (Spring 2018 issue) we covered the history of AI, advantages and disadvantages, sire selection, and methodology.

In Part 2 (Summer 2018 issue) we covered, heat detection.

Now, in Part 3 we will discuss who will do the AI. There are options, and how to AI.

WHO SHOULD DO THE DEED?

A vet, a certified AI technician or you?

The success rate of AI depends on many factors, but according to just about anyone in the business of AI-ing the most critical aspect for success or failure is in the timing. So whether you choose to use a vet, a certified technician, or inseminate your own cattle, the odds of success are only as good as your timing.

Excellent timing requires careful observation of heat cycles in general, and frequent observation during. *(See AI Part 2 – Heat Detection Summer 2018 issue.)*

Assuming that you are now an expert at heat detection, you must decide “who” will AI your herd.

VET or AI TECHNICIAN CRITERIA

Depending on where you live, you may not have an option between using a veterinarian or certified AI technician.

But if you do, the number one criteria for either, is quantity/experience. Since techs do nothing but AI, an experienced tech will likely have done thousands if not tens of thousands inseminations in their careers. Most vets will have a fraction of that experience.

The second criteria is availability. The optimum window of conception is a mere 12 hours. If you plan to use a vet to AI, keep in mind that although breeding may seem like an emergency to you, it is unlikely to take priority over many emergency calls that a vet must respond to. If you are planning to use an AI tech, understand that they can be seasonally VERY busy. Contact an AI tech in advance, discuss timing and scheduling and determine a sensible breeding strategy that will up the chances for success, be less stressful and maybe even more cost effective.

COST

Costs for vet services vary widely from place to place, so you can do your own calculations. Costs for an AI tech are typically less than a vet. Note, a certified AI tech is not a licensed vet, they are specifically trained and hopefully licensed to AI, but that is all.

If you want AI to be cost effective, become excellent at heat detection. Poor timing of insemination is usually the reason for failure, not the skill of the inseminator or the quality of the semen. If multiple trips to rebreed are required to settle your cow(s)... get help with better understanding what signs of heat look like or... get a bull.

DIY

DIY? ... why not?

There are many cattle breeders that AI their own herds.

COURSES

AI training courses are offered nationwide. These are typically a 2-3 day crash course with a bit of book learning, lectures, but most importantly hands on (or should we say hands in) learning. No prior experience is re-

quired and by the end of the course you will be very familiar with handling the reproductive anatomy as you will actually be inseminating cows yourself.

At first glance these courses can seem pricey (usually ranging from \$700 on up) not including travel and lodging expenses, but when you factor in the costs required to purchase, maintain and manage a bull or pay a vet or AI technician to AI "x" amount of cows for "x" amount of years, the price seems quite reasonable.

There are also AI training books, DVDs and videos. This could be a great way to familiarize yourself on the subject although lacking the hands on experiential aspect, but hey... you have your own herd to experiment and practice on.

INITIAL INVESTMENT

Not counting the cost of the semen straws, other initial investments would be a nitrogen semen storage tank, in-

semination syringe, tweezers to handle the frozen semen straws and a variety of supplies; disposable arm length gloves, straw sleeves, lubricant, etc.

Used tanks are readily available online, but even a new tank from sementanks.com can cost as little as \$299 and comes with a warranty.

A syringe is in the \$30-\$40 range, tweezers are under ten bucks and most needed supplies are packaged in bulk so an initial investment of less than \$150 for everything besides the tank could last a long time.

The obvious advantages to learning the skill of AI yourself is having full control of timing, self reliance, overall cost savings and (in theory) lower stress to your animals - all very compelling reasons to seriously consider yourself as your best option. As an added bonus, you can offset your investment and generate income by AI-ing for other breeders.

HOW TO AI

As an alternative to including pages of instruction and images here, Select Sires has an excellent four page tutorial: AI Technique in Cattle, which explains in simple terms and includes excellent computer generated images that help to understand and visualize the specific anatomical parts involved.

Even if you never intend to AI, images in this tutorial can be valuable to better understanding the reproductive organs in general.



Check it out.

If this direct link is a bit too long for you, just go to www.selectsires.com and work your way from there.

www.selectsires.com/resources/fertilitydocs/ai_technique_cattle.pdf?version=20180803

UPCOMING COURSES

BOVINE ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION SCHOOL

Agtech Inc., Manhattan, KS,
www.agtechinc.com/aischool

Course Dates
DEC 10 – 11, 2018

A.I. SCHOOL

Cattle Visions, Clark, MO
cattlevisions.com/ai_school.php

Course Dates
OCT 20 – 21, 2018
NOV 3 – 4, 2018

BOVINE AI / PALPATION CLASS

Reproduction Enterprises,
Stillwater, OK
www.reproductionenterprises.com/training-courses

Course Dates
OCT 12 – 14, 2018
NOV 16 – 18, 2018

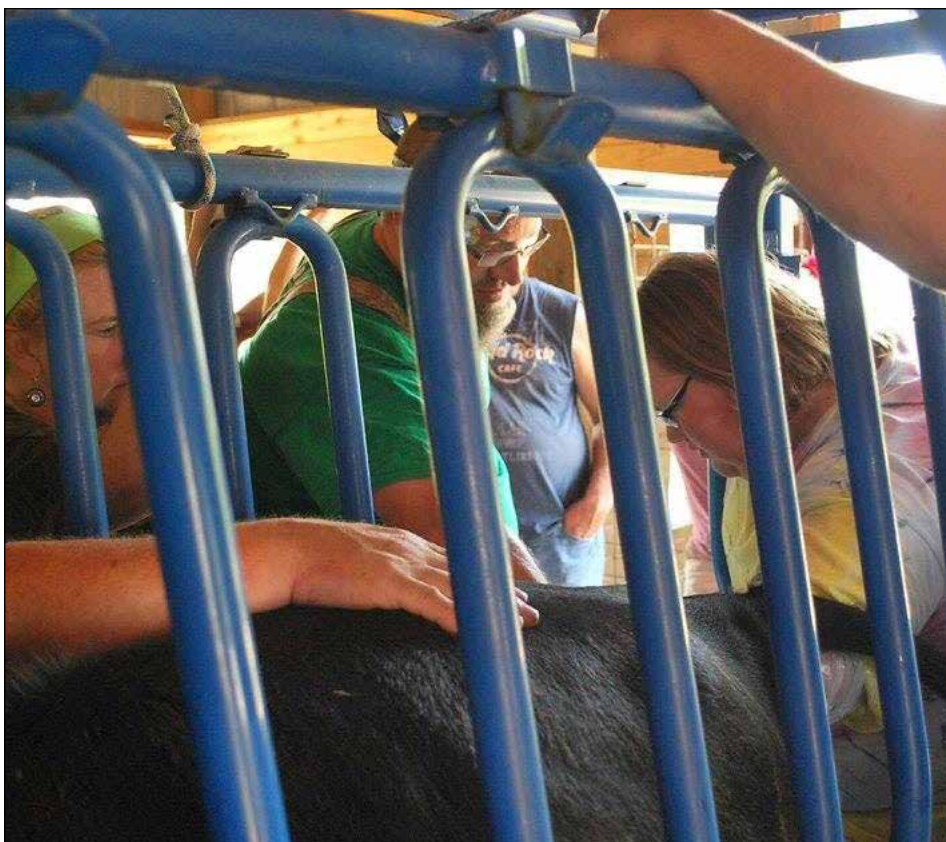
BOVINE AI CLINIC

UC Davis School of Veterinary
Medicine, Davis CA
animalscience.ucdavis.edu/events

Course Dates
MAR 24 – 25, 2019

DVDs

The Ultimate Genetics Artificial Insemination School and Reproductive Symposium DVD by CT Cryogenics



AI

Do It Yourself?

We asked Tabitha Akins
of Triple T Farm in Tellico
Plains, TN

- I am assuming you learned this to do on your own animals and not as a career choice. Is this correct?

Yes, that is correct.

- What prompted you to learn to do AI yourself?

We have a friend who would come and AI the cows, but they live an hour away and getting the timing and availability just right was a task. It has been much more cost effective to learn it ourselves.

- Where did you learn it?

I knew a little bit on how AI worked from watching and asking questions when a friend came to do it. But as far as actually learning and being hands on, Sally Coad from Freedom Farms in Philadelphia, TN

hosted an AI Workshop at her farm. Chad Hazelton from Ohio came down and taught the class.

- How long have you been doing it or how many times have you done the procedure?

I've been AI-ing for just over a year now

- Have you had success with AI ing your animals?

I've had three confirmed pregnancies so far, and my first two calves should be on the ground any day now!

- What do you feel has been the most challenging aspect of DIY?

I've found two things to be the most challenging. Timing is one of them.

AI-ing too early or too late reduces chances of conception. And two is getting the AI gun where it needs to be and depositing the semen where it should go for the best chance at the cow conceiving. Even though every cow is made exactly the same on the inside, each one is completely different. I'm sure anyone who has AI'd could say something similar.

- Advice to someone considering learning AI?

It isn't hard it just takes technique, and lots of practice! The start up cost can be expensive with buying all the equipment and semen you need, but in the long run the cost of maintaining isn't much at all

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demonstrations at www.EZAnimalProducts.com

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Wasted

What's the easiest way to lower your feed bill?
Use the right feeder



Hay feeding time has started and feeding big round bales sure makes the job easier. Large bale feeding systems are designed to minimize labor but not waste. Most producers feed hay in some kind of feeder, but did you know the type of feeder can affect how much hay is wasted?

Feeding hay in a rack or a round bale feeder limits the opportunity animals have to trample or soil hay, and reduces waste substantially.

Minimal feeding losses occur where hay is fed with a rack or bale feeder that forces the animal to turn its head when backing away from the feeder. When animals can back straight out of a feeder, they can pull out large chunks of hay that drop on the ground and are lost as feed.

Hay loss and waste can also be reduced by how often we feed. Daily feeding will force cattle to eat hay they might otherwise refuse, over-consume, trample and waste. Cattle waste less hay when the amount fed is limited to what is needed each day. Twenty-five percent more hay is needed when a four-day supply is fed with free access. Cows will over consume, if hay is fed free choice.

Long feeders are less effective than round or square feeders because boss animals will push others back by walking down the long feeder, interrupting other cows feeding and reducing their intake.

While some losses will always occur, keeping losses to a minimum can reduce feed costs, resulting in more efficient use of forages and increasing the profitability of the cow herd enterprise.

Cone feeders are more expensive but when you figure the amount and value of the hay that is saved, cone feeders may be worth the extra cost, especially if your feeders have no skirts.

HAY WRAP- DIGESTABLE or HARMFUL?

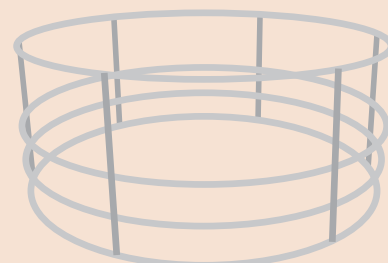
North Dakota State University has studied the potential for digestive problems in cattle that consume net wrap, plastic twine, biodegradable twine and sisal twine. Their research shows that after 14 days net wrap and biodegradable twine are not broken down in the rumen. Seventy percent of sisal twine breaks down in the rumen. A little twine or net wrap in the rumen may not be damaging but as the cow accumulates it over time problems could arise. Might pay to take a little more time and remove all the net wrap or twine.

TEST YOUR HAY FOR NUTRIENTS

Finally, do you know the nutrient content of your hay or forages? Testing forages lets you determine their best and most economical use in a ration. Forage testing helps you to allocate higher quality forage to high producing livestock (i.e. a growing calf), and poorer quality forages to animals at lower levels of nutritional needs (i.e. a dry cow). For a list of testing labs contact your local County Extension Office.

Hay Wasted

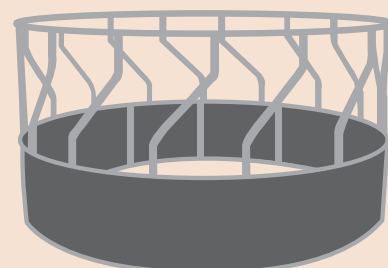
Cone feeder	3.3%
Ring feeder w/skirt	5.9%
Simple hay rack	9%
Feed trailer	11.1%
Cradle feeder	14.2%



Ring Feeder



Cone feeder



Ring feeder w/skirt

Hay Waster Calculator

<https://nobleapps.noble.org/AG-Calculators/Calculators/HayRing-Waste>

Meet Bill Bartolac

KITTITAS, WA

Bill Bartolac was selected from a list of ten well known cattle judges to judge the Irish Dexter classes at the upcoming National Western Stock Show in Denver Colorado in January 2019.



You be the Judge

A frequent concern of the Dexter community in general, and those that show their Dexter cattle specifically, it is rare to have a cattle judge that actually knows what Dexters are all about. Let's face it, cattle are divided into two categories: beef and dairy, with each focusing on traits to better support their singular purpose. Therefore, the system in which most cattle judges are trained do not prepare them for critiquing a multipurpose breed like Dexters.

Sure, a well conformed cow is a well conformed cow in anyone's book, but if determining a balance between beef traits and dairy traits were not difficult enough, add the sug-

gested Dexter breed height standards into the mix for the ultimate challenge.

Putting aside the beef vs dairy aspect, if you took the same exact animal that stands at the low end of Dexter breed standards and morphed it up to the

high end, you might have a completely different impression of that animal. Both awesome perhaps, but go ahead, you be the judge. Which is "better"?

Neither and both - it's purely subjective based on ones preferences and needs.



Dexter Breed Standard

Height in inches

	US	CAN	UK	AUS-PREFERRED	AUS-ALLOWED
BULLS	38-44	36-44	42-48	40-44	38-46
COWS	36-42	38-46	38-44	38-42	36-44

It was obvious that cattle judge, Bill Bartolac, was happy to be a part of the big Utah State Fair Dexter show sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Dexter Breeders Association on September 7, 2018.

At 4pm Bill sauntered into the show ring with his slight limp, wearing a big hat and an even bigger smile. Bill has a wonderfully contagious smile that makes you smile, and radiates his honesty, genuine cordiality and enthusiasm. He is friendly and engaging with just the right amount of humility making him completely likeable.

Bill is seventy-six and has been "in cattle" and showing cattle for over forty-five years.

He has raised Herefords, Simmentals and commercial sized Angus, but has downsized to Aberdeen Angus and Dexters. He has a handful of Dexter cows that he AI's himself using registered Dexter bulls semen with attributes to improve his herd.

Bill's judging style is professional yet personable, casual yet thoughtful, sharing little showmanship tips privately with individual exhibitors in the ring as well as his broader perspectives and insights with the spectators. He gives clear and precise explanations of not only the "what" he sees – good or bad, but "why" it was good or bad, educating anyone willing to hear his wisdom.

At 10pm, after judging over eighty animals in thirty-nine classes, there was Bill, still smiling big as ever, not because the show was finally over, and not just because that's the kinda guy he is. Bill is a Dexter fan and wants to help promote and improve the breed by helping Dexter breeders improve their own herds. The process is called judging, but Bill sees his part as "helping the cause". Sure, it's fun to win ribbons and premiums but there are no losers, just a ring full of breeders learning what they can improve upon.

Four Questions for Bill Bartolac

Q So how do you prioritize the attributes of a Dexter?

A 50% beef/ 50% dairy – they need to have a bit of both. Not too much or little of one or the other.

Q How about a priority list based on your observations of Dexters in general, but especially the show ring.

A The show ring is a great opportunity to be evaluated by an experienced, knowledgeable, uninterested third party. Sure it is great to win ribbons and premiums, but the better value as breeders is in the comparison and critiques. It is education so we may make better decisions when it comes to breeding or culling.

OK, so areas that need improvement - what I have observed in the show rings, or what I would advise Dexter breeders in general to pay attention to:

Feet and legs. A breeding animal will not hold up without good legs and feet. I see too many Dexters that are cow hocked in the rear, narrow set in the front, or both.

Udders. NO extra teats! Not just for cosmetic reasons, but the chances of mastitis increase greatly in these misplaced teats. They are simple to remove if done early, so I do not see any point in not removing them. Cow or heifer MUST have four evenly placed, equally long teats preferably with all four pointing down. If she is lactating, DO NOT show her with one or two quarter milked out causing her bag to look misshaped. Plan ahead. Plan to have her udders look their best for the duration of the class(es) she is in.

Testicles. The testicles MUST be even with NO twisting. If a bull has everything going for him but has any twist to the testicles, it's a deal breaker for me. The job of a bull is to breed cows. A twisted testicle always equals lower sperm count making him a lesser bull.

Excessive sized bulls. Keep in mind that I am judging a bulls appropriateness to breed to Dexter cows which, in theory, are under 700lbs. I have seen Dexter bulls that were so big (heavy) they would break a typical Dexter cow down prematurely - not a desirable attribute in a bull.

Groceries. Many Dexters I see in the show ring need more finish (fat). It's as simple as that.

Q In your opinion, what holds the Dexter breed back?

A First, I think Dexter breeders need to get their animals out in public more. Dexters are unique with their smaller size and multipurpose attributes. They have been in the US since 1905 and yet the breed is still relatively unknown even in the cattle community.

That being said I would suggest that only superior quality, halter trained stock be exhibited. It does

continued on page 16

not benefit the breeds' reputation to see poor quality or untrained stock dragging their handlers around. Bring only your best, and train them well.

Second, I think a more organized Junior Program would help Dexters in a big way. If you look at other breeds their junior programs are big because they are future breeders that will promote the breed.

Q *You just got done judging the big Dexter show in Utah. What suggestions would you give those exhibitors for the future?*

A The Utah show was a lot of fun. It is not a typical mainstream cattle show where it is all about winning grand champion. There was a huge experience range in both the cattle and the exhibitors. Some are there to win, but most were there to learn, support the breed and be a part of a fun event, so I do not want to be critical. But, if I could offer a few helpful suggestions to any exhibitor it would be:

If you are going to show an animal, train them – to walk freely, to set up and then stand quietly. It is obvious to a judge who has taken the time to train their animals. The preparation is months in advance, not days.

Use a show stick. This is sort of related to #1. Its purpose is to gently place the feet in a better position to make their attributes more visible (or invisible) and to sooth the animal coaxing them to remain still.

Do not set your animal up too close to the one in front or beside you. You need room to move for setting up, re-

positioning and also when the judge is evaluating you without bumping into others.

Do not block the judge's view as he/she is evaluating your animal. Move to the front of the animal if the side is being evaluated and vice versa

Group breeder classes, where you have more than one animal at a time being shown together, need to be arranged tightly side by side, largest to smallest.



September 5th, 2018

To PDCA:

My name is Wyatt Imhoff. I am 14 years old and I would like to share my experience with Dexter cattle. I live in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in the town of Crystal Falls in Iron County. I met a really nice man (Jim Countryman) who sold me my first Irish Dexter steer. He is full of information and I have learned a lot from him as I have continued my experience with Dexters. Thanks to him, we have a small herd of our own. I was excited to finally get into raising cattle because I really wanted to show a steer, however we were the only family in our county to decide to start raising Dexters. We had to do a lot of research and attend fair board meetings in order to have a small breed class, not "miniatures". I have shown Dexters now for 3 years and it has been great. We hang posters in the barn with Dexter fun facts to educate potential buyers and the general public about this small breed. I find that they are more docile and easier to handle in the ring than the "big" cattle. Something that happened this year that was really exciting is that I showed a cow/calf pair (Cinnamon and her steer calf, Thomas) and I was up against a Holstein cross cow/calf pair. The judge picked my cow/calf pair over the other ones! This was exciting because we worked really hard to have good quality Dexters for showing and the farmer that we were judged against was always giving me a hard time as to why I wanted to raise Dexters. He actually came up and told me that my cow/calf pair looked really good. I told him Thank you.

My steers have sold at our livestock auction at the fair for no less than \$2.50 per pound on the hoof and my last 2 have weighed in at 800 lbs. I think that the marketing of the Dexters that my family and I do help with the sale at auction, which goes to buying my next steer and my college fund. We tell people about the healthiness of the meat, smaller cuts, and tenderness. I am finding that more people are getting interested in what my Dexter has to offer. The one thing that is hard is that I find myself getting attached to them because I work with them every day. I halter train them, walk them on a lead rope, bathe and groom them, and give them their alfalfa cubes (it's their favorite treat).

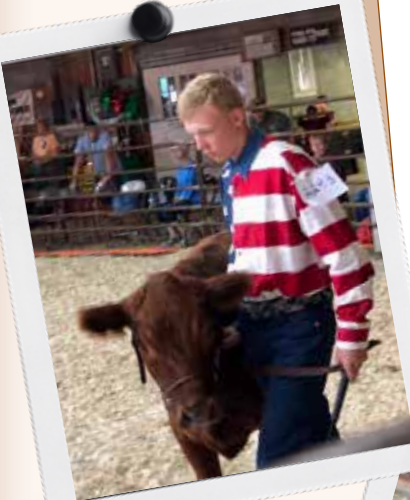
On the other side of things, with the cow/calf pair, I tell people about A2/A2 milk, docility, less space needed to raise Dexters, less food intake (not to mention they forage really well), and how easy they are to handle. I do the chores before school every day, which aren't much because they are easy to take care of.

Attached are some pictures of our cow/calf pair and my Grand Champion Steer from this year's fair.

I just wanted to tell my story and hopefully inspire more youth to try showing or raising Dexters.

Sincerely,
Wyatt Imhoff

Never
Too
Young to
Inspire



Dexters in Denver

Robin Pittack from Shelton, WA, has owned Dexters for a long time. Robin attended the 2018 National Western Stock Show in January and knew immediately that Dexters needed to be there.

Robin contacted the NWSS livestock coordinator with her petition to include Dexter cattle, and they were delighted to be able to introduce a new breed to the livestock events and offered sup-

port with awards and premiums. So for the first year ever, Irish Dexter Cattle are on the official online 2019 National Western Stock Show schedule. Hats off to Robin who took the initiative to make this happen!

Now, Dexter lovers, we need twenty-five (or more) of our best Dexters in the show ring on January 12th, 2019 and a grandstand of Dexter enthusiast to cheer them on.

PDCA will be there supporting the exhibitors, handling the hospitality tent and of course promoting all Dexters and Dexter breeders to the tens of thousands that will sure to be visiting The Stockyard.

Get more details at **Dexters in Denver** Facebook page and the **National Western Stock Show** website.

Shootin' down the top 7 excuses to NOT GO to Denver

1. January in Denver? Brrrrrrrrr.

Seriously?! Where are your cows in January? – outside in the cold. Average temperature on January 12th in Denver is 15 degrees low (not below) and 46 degrees high. The northern half of the US might actually call this balmy. Those of us in the middle would find these temps pretty typical for where we live, the rest of you can layer and wear a jacket. 600,000+ other people seem to be able to survive the weather in Denver each year and from the thousands of online pics... they are having a blast!

2. The animal pens will be waaaay away from the show arena, tied to a fence in the middle of nowhere.

Ummm.... NO. The Dexters will be penned in The Stockyard which has many rows of large outdoor pens. The Stockyard is renowned for its authentic "real-deal" ambiance and a stroll thru The Stockyard is considered one of the highlights of attending the event. Those that have experienced The Stockyard first hand express their preference of the more casual and cordial environment of The Stockyard, to the newer indoor barns. The eclectic assortment of hospitality canopies and warming tents scattered thru The Stockyard are friendly gathering places and a warm and welcome refuge when needed.

3. It will cost too much money to attend.

Sponsorship and funding to offset expenses are in the works, but... This is not your average Dexter cattle show. Opportunities come and go, so it might cost you more if you do NOT attend.

4. The NWSS makes you use their hay, their bedding, their everything.

Many livestock events have weed-free requirements for hay. Policing thousands of exhibitors hay vs just provide the correct hay is a win-win. Denver gets less imported weeds and you have a lot less things to buy and haul from home.

5. Our cows calve in Feb/March so the timing is bad.

Really?! Dexters do not need your help calving. That's why we enjoy owning them.

And what... you have no steers, no heifers, no bulls? It's only October, so there is plenty of time to train and fit any one of the three by January.

6. It's a long drive, especially in winter.

Yep, ya better stay home.

7. This is the first time for Dexters here, so too many unanswered questions.

Not really, this event has been happening every year for 113 years – 1905 – the same year that Dexters were first imported into the US. What a coincidence!

There are yaks, llamas, alpacas, bison, miniature horse, you name it being shown at this event. Why not Dexters? Now **that** is the best unanswered question.



The **National Western Stock Show**, established in 1906, is the premier livestock, rodeo, and horse show in the nation, serving agricultural producers and consumers throughout the world attracting attendance numbers over 650,000 visitors each year.

Noteworthy Statistics

- 1996 – Attendance exceeds 600,000.
- 1997 – A record 23 breeds of cattle had a show and/or sale
- 1999 – Elk and Yak sales were added to the livestock sales program. Attendance records were set for both single day and entire run – 68,357 and 603,328 respectively.
- 2000 – New events in the 2000 show included a dairy cow milking exhibition. A new attendance record of 631,801 was set, as Denver enjoyed great weather. Miniature Hereford cattle were judged for the first time at the 2000 show.
- 2001 – This was the first year for the Boer Goat show
- 2002 – The Stock Show set an all-time record attendance of more than 632,000.
- 2003 – The National Western Stock Show recorded a record attendance of 641,033. A new record for breeding cattle entries was set at 4,491.
- 2006 – National Western celebrates its 100th anniversary; an attendance record is shattered when recorded attendance reaches 726,972 for the 16-day show.
- 2011 – In spite severe cold and snow during the first week of the Show, attendance still hits 644,818
- 2019 – Will be the first year that Dexters will be shown at this prestigious event.

Robin Pittack to Purebred Dexter Cattle Association

August 28 at 8:30 AM ·

For the first time in history Dexters are going to have a show at the National Western Stock Show in Denver. This is the largest cattle show in the United States! Premium guide is online September 15. All entries need to be in by November 20. Since this is the first year of Dexters in Denver we will be the show cased breed. Last year over 50,000 people come through the area where we will be on the same weekend we will be there....the possibilities are endless! Come join us in the fun....show some...sell some...come help educated the public on this wonderful breed! Join "Dexters in Denver" Facebook page to keep up to date on any new news before it goes to print. All registries are welcome

SEP 6TH, 12:44 AM · PDCA

Robin. Thanks for posting this. How can the PDCA be helpful in promoting participation? Can you provide a link to entry page?

SEP 6TH, 7:11AM

This is the link to the National western premium book. The 2019 premium guide won't be out until the 20th of September. Any help that you can give to get the word out that there is going to be a show would be great. The National Western has required a minimum of 25 animals there. Also they are donating 500.00 to go toward our premiums. They will pay for all of it in 3 years but for now we have to come up with the rest. If the PDCA would like to sponsor any of the premiums that would be great. please Feel free to call me, there's so much information to discuss about the show.. the National Western really wants all of us there and they are doing some awesome things to help us. Robin

September 9 at 9:31 PM · PDCA

Just got home from Utah State Fair Dexter Show. The Rocky Mountain Dexter Breeders group are as warm and friendly as they get! 80+ quality animals!! Very tough competition. Fifteen year old Olivia Williams from Sonoma, CA had a very successful day showing and she was excited to send her mentors Wes & Jane Patton's of Glenn Land Farms a picture of all her awards.



Olivia is planning to show her Dexters at the upcoming National Western Stock Show in Denver in January 2019, the most prestigious cattle event in the country if not the world!

This will be the first year ever that Dexters will be shown at the National Western Stock Show and PDCA is thrilled to support the cause. Good luck Olivia! See ya in Denver.

September 14 at 12:44 PM · PDCA

Dexters have been in the US since 1905 and yet they are relatively still unknown. We need to change this! For the first time in it's 113 year history, National Western Stock Show in Denver Colorado will be showcasing Irish Dexters, January 12, 2019.

This is an incredible opportunity to transition Dexters from obscurity and expand our market potential for the benefit of all Dexter breeders.

Do not be a bystander - get involved - this will be an amazing adventure.

Learn more at Dexters in Denver Facebook page



2018 Utah State Fair

DEXTER SHOW

The 2018 Utah State Fair Dexter Show sponsored by the Rocky Mountain Dexter Breeders Association did not disappoint. Breeders from Utah, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, and California came with over eighty animals showing in thirty-nine classes.

2018 Champions

Champion Bull

Glenn Land Cedric

*Owned by Dan & Charline
Cummings, Helper, UT*

Champion Female

Glenn Land Ms Aimee

*Owned by Olivia Williams,
Sebastopol, CA*

Champion Steer

High Pines Toby

*Owned by Jim & Peggy
Woehl, Hot Springs, SD*

Champion Senior Showmanship (15 and over)

*Olivia Williams,
Sebastopol, CA*

Champion Youth Showmanship

*Olivia Williams,
Justin Burkeland,
Wyoming*



Olivia Williams
Champion Senior
Showmanship



Justin Burkeland
Champion Youth
Showmanship

Youth Heifer Program

To encourage youth to be involved in Dexters youth applicants are given an opportunity to be awarded a Dexter heifer of their own. Recipients submit essays that include their involvement and aspirations with Dexters. The recipients are expected to show the awarded animal at the following years show.

Justin Burkeland, Wyoming, was awarded a heifer donated by Jim and Peggy Woehl. His RMDB mentors are Chris and Vicki Jones.

Payton Ashcraft, California, was awarded a heifer donated by Chris and Vicki Jones. Her RMDB mentor is Lonnie Ruesch.

The 2017 recipient, Vivian Platt, showed the cow she won last year (donated by Warren Moore) and heifer this year.

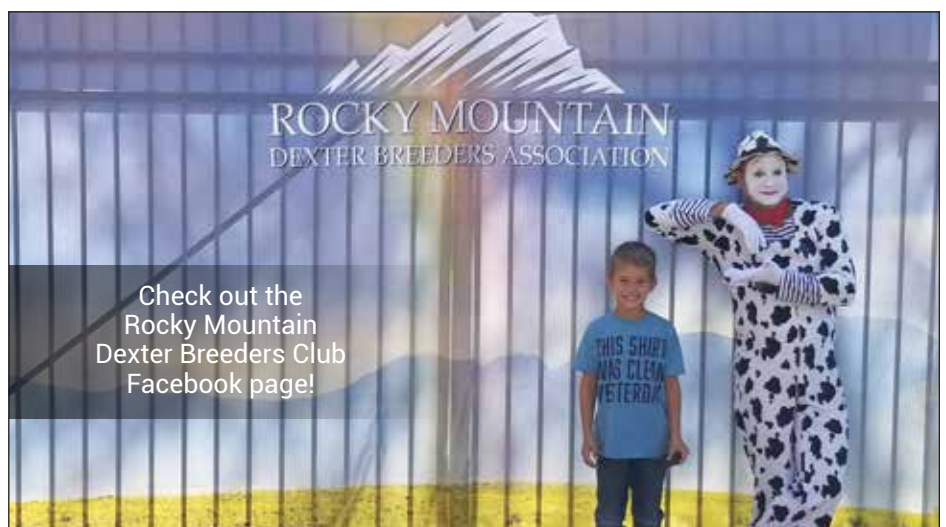
Thank you to the heifer donors and congratulations to these deserving young people!

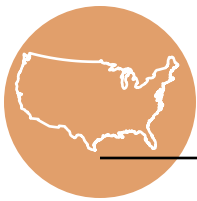


See more photos from
the Utah State Fair
2018 Dexter Show at



[Facebook.com/PDCANOW](https://www.facebook.com/PDCANOW)





REGIONAL GROUPS



Rocky Mountain Dexter Breeders

www.rockymountaindexter.com

We are not a registry, and you do not need to be a member of a breed association to be a part of RMDB all breeders are welcome!

Our purpose is to educate breeders on best practices for herd management, educate the public about the benefits of Dexter cattle, and provide Dexter breeders with resources to market their cattle.

2018 Fall Farm Tour September 28 -29 Lusk WY Go to website for more details.



Legacy Dexter Cattle Breeders

legacybreeders.org

Our goal - To bring breeders together to preserve the unique qualities and traits found in the rare, original Dexter bloodlines. Membership is open to all breeders interested in preservation. Help us save these wonderful and unique heritage bloodlines from disappearing forever.



Ohio Valley Dexter Breeders Association

ohiovalleydexters.weebly.com

Promoting the breed along with our youth is a major focus of OVDBA, as well as educating, researching and teaching each other how to identify, select and breed for well conformed, solid animals that are within the standards of the Dexter breed. Anyone from any state is welcome.



Dexter Cattle Club of Tennessee

www.dextercattleclub.com

We are based in Tennessee, but open to all. Dexters are the stars of our organization no politics just simply for the good of the Dexter breed. We organize clinics, seminars and other marketing opportunities for our members, and support youth participants. Go to club website for 2018 Wilson County Dexter Cattle Show Results.



Sierra Dexters

www.dexterstoday.com/sierra-dexters

With a focus on learning and sharing, Dexter enthusiasts in northern California are organizing farm tours and workshops to educate, inspire and encourage a more connected small farming community in California and surrounding states. This is an association neutral group and all are welcome to join, share and learn about all things relating to self sufficiency, sustainability and small farm stewardship.



PDCA
P.O. BOX 135
EDWARDS, MS 39066
PDCANOW@GMAIL.COM
WWW.DEXTRSTODAY.COM

Purebred Dexter Cattle Association

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☐ \$20 Renew Member ☐ \$40 Registration + Transfer

My name is _____

☐ I am joining PDCA now
☐ I am renewing my membership
☐ I am a current member (renewed since July 1, 2018)

Farm Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Ph (____) _____

Email _____

☐ Register + Transfer Date of sale _____

Buyer Name: _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Ph (____) _____

Email _____

Name of animal to be registered (max 23 characters)

Birth Date _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Steer

Tattoo # _____ ☐ Left ear ☐ Right ear

☐ Horned ☐ Polled ☐ Black ☐ Dun ☐ Red

Certified Registration see reverse side for details

☐ Certified by Testing ☐ Certified by Obligate

Genotyped Genotyped
PHA Tested PHA Obligate
Chondro Tested Chondro Obligate
Sire and Dam verified

Please submit all test results or proof needed to verify

Name of Sire of animal being registered

PDCA # _____ Legacy# _____
ADCA# _____ CDCA# _____

☐ I owned sire at the time of breeding
☐ I did not own sire at the time of breeding
☐ Dam was bred using AI on (date): _____
Receipt/invoice from AI service company/technician included (required)

Sire owner at the time of live breeding if not applicant

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Ph (____) _____

Email _____

Name of Dam of animal being registered

PDCA # _____ Legacy# _____
ADCA# _____ CDCA# _____

☐ I was the breeder of the animal being registered
and in possession of dam at time of breeding
☐ I owned the dam at the time of birth
☐ I bought the dam already bred on

(Date of purchase): _____

From: _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Ph (____) _____

Email _____

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PRESERVE YOUR DEXTERS HERITAGE REGISTER TODAY

We affirm the value of integrity **and** science by offering both DNA tested and untested registration options. The choice is yours.



STANDARD REGISTRATION

Requires both sire and dam be registered with a recognized Dexter cattle registry. No DNA testing required.



CERTIFIED REGISTRATION

In addition to meeting the Standard Registration requirements There are two options to provide the proof needed to register as Certified:

1. By Testing

- Genotyped
- PHA tested
- Chondro tested

2. By Obligate

- Genotyped
- Parent verified to PHA and Chondro tested (or obligate) Sire and Dam

PDCA Registration Certificates Offer a Complete Record

- Four generations of pedigree
- Polled status
- Other Dexter registry ID numbers
- Color markers
- Genotyping or parent verification status
- A2 status
- Chondro and PHA status

Online registrations completed in 10 days or less



INTRODUCING RECORD OF BIRTH!

Record of Birth benefits everyone and... It's free!

When you submit a Record of Birth the recorded animal will be included in the offspring record of the PDCA registered sire and/or dam.

The data provided will allow PDCA to have more accurate statistics to better understand the needs and trends relating to the Dexter breed and to better assist the needs of Dexter breeders.

Tattoo Letters

2016 – D 2018 – F
2017 – E 2019 – G

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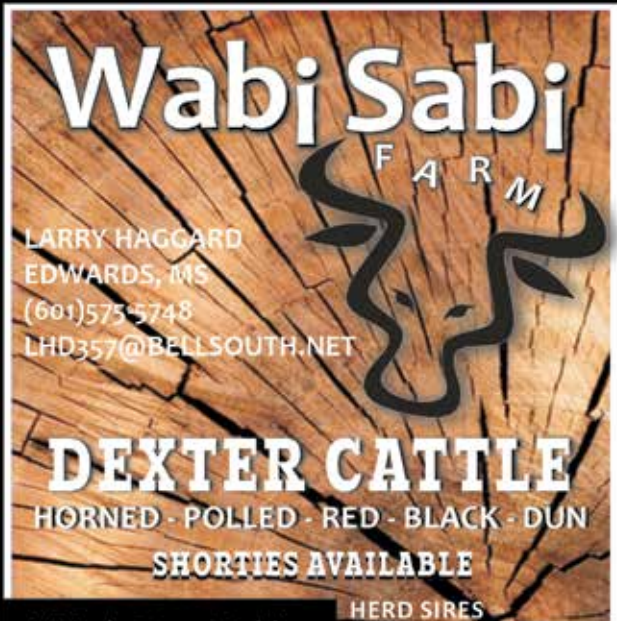
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 HERD SIRES

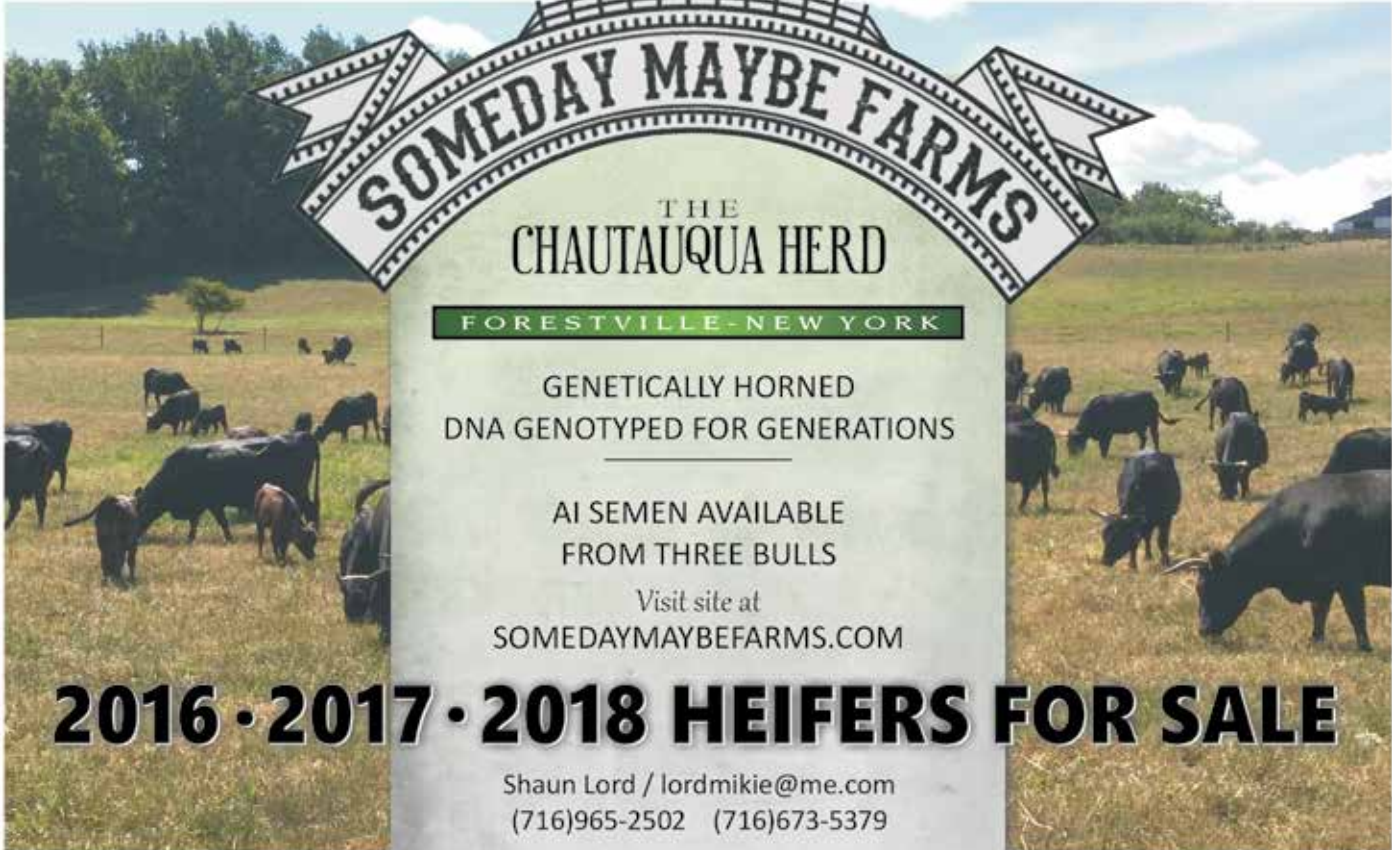
Virinda Farm Tarbh

 TRADITIONAL BLACK A2/A2

Dunbar Farms Romeo

 POLLED RED A2/A2
 PDCA 300446
 ADCA 032845

PDCA 207153
 ADCA 029752



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Red carries Dun

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