

# THE **DEXTER CATTLE** *journal*



*For Dexter enthusiasts everywhere*



Summer 2018



# THE DEXTER CATTLE journal

Summer 2018

Published by  
Purebred Dexter Cattle Association  
of North America  
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inspirational stories and photos.  
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Advertising Deadline  
Summer issue September 1, 2018  
Submit to: goPDCA@gmail.com

Comments Welcome!  
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Subscriptions  
The Dexter Cattle Journal is a quarterly publica-  
tion for the membership of  
Purebred Dexter Cattle Association of North  
America as a benefit of membership.  
Two year non-member subscriptions are avail-  
able for \$60.  
Go to [www.purebreddextercattle.com/journal](http://www.purebreddextercattle.com/journal)

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Photo by Patrice Lewis - Plummer, Idaho  
On the back -  
Phil Eavou with LPFM Lakeport and SM Marcus on the  
Eavou family farm in Rudyard, MI. Photo by Amy Eavou/  
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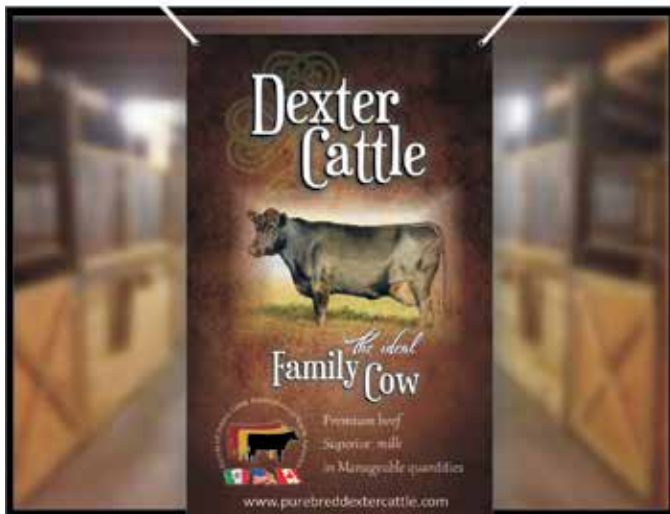
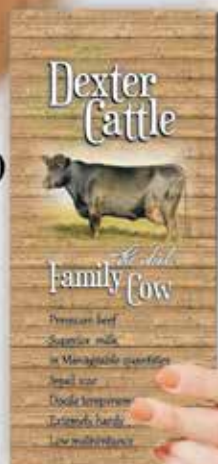
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## AREA 3 GETS NEW MANAGER

The PDCA board welcomes Michael Mendenhall onto the Board as Area 3 Regional Manager. The strength of the PDCA board is due to the variety of viewpoints represented in the decision making process. Michael's preservationist perspective will give voice to others breeders that share that passion, ensuring that NO DEXTER GETS LEFT BEHIND. Michael and his wife Joanne are very active promoters of Dexters and PDCA is blessed to have their commitment, determination, optimism and professional skill sets on our team.



## STILL UPDATING BYLAWS

The PDCA Board has been working on updating our Bylaws since November (!) and still.... They are not quite done yet. Oh, so close though. The goal is short, sweet, and ensure ultimate power is in the hands of the membership – not the Board by including a “Rights of the Membership”, where transparency, access and participation are ensured. We need to get it “right.” Soon.

## MAKING AN IMPRESSION

It is great to see how many members have requested our complimentary Dexter brochures. The feedback after the various events has been wonderful, not to mention profitable. There are three testimonials in this issue that we hope will encourage and inspire you to get your Dexters out in the public.





## POLICY CHANGES

**INCLUDE GENTETIC TESTING** Previously, the policy for a Registry to Registry transfer was to issue a PDCA registration certificate with identical information to the ADCA or Legacy registration certificate provided. No edits – no changes. But we are finding that many older registered animals have since been genetic ally tested for a variety of things that are not included on the ADCA or Legacy certificates. Previously, adding the test results required resubmitting another “Certificate Change” form. PDCA aims to make registering and owning Dexters easy – so that policy needs to go! Now, new members that are transferring their herds into the PDCA registry can upload testing results in the online Registry to Registry Transfer form so their new PDCA registration certificate is fully up to date.

## SURVEY SAYS...

Responses to the brief survey on our membership new or renew form indicate that PDCA needs to prioritize marketing Dexters on your behalf. One of the best ways to do this is to help YOU, equip YOU, and support YOU in marketing your Dexters. In addition to providing articles about ways to improve YOUR sales, PDCA is excited to be hosting a WEBINAR with Charlotte Smith (see her article “Farm Events” on page 14) in October that will focus on creating a profitable business strategy unique to your situation and goals. Charlotte’s marketing methods and ideas are simple and easy to implement, yet can produce amazing results. Date and details will be announced in the Fall issue and members will also receive a “shout out” email when the details are confirmed.

**REGISTERING STEERS** Currently, there are zero steers registered in the PDCA database. Why might someone want/need to register a steer? Registration is usually required to show cattle, or to have a complete record of offspring to prove the reproductive performance of a dam. Previously, all PDCA registrations were - \$20, but for an animal that you will eventually eat?... The PDCA board is considering adding a reduced fee Steer Registration to be emailed as a PDF self print certificate showing only: animal ID #, DOB, PDCA registered sire info, PDCA registered dam info, and current owner info which would meet most fair show requirements. A decision will be made soon, so comments and suggestions are appreciated.



## HONK, HONK - IT’S RENEWAL TIME

July 1st is membership renewal time. It’s easy to renew and pay online. To show our appreciation for renewing you will receive a conversation starter, promotional ad and way to express your pride all in one... bumper sticker. And it’s another way to get Dexters out into the public. Renew NOW and we all win.

# Dexter Cattle

Good things  
come in small packages

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# Artificial Insemination - Part 2

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*In part one in the Spring 2018 issue, we covered history, advantages and disadvantage, sire selection, and methodology. In this article, we will examine heat detection, aids in detecting heat, and share excerpts of an interview with professional AI technician – Mike Luis*

## HEAT DETECTION

By far the biggest failure associated with AI is failure to detect heat and breed the cow at the correct time. Unlike some breeds which bellow and pace and make their estrus cycle obvious, Dexters can be far more subtle when it comes to their cycles.

Timing is everything, and this is why herdsmen should be extremely vigilant about watching their cows, making observations of their herd's behavior at least three times a day. Breeding is a mission which should be taken seriously; this vigilance will affect the conception success rate. The higher the vigilance, the higher the conception rate.

### WHAT TO LOOK FOR

In cows, the estrous cycle can be divided into four periods: Proestrus (pre-heat), Estrus (standing heat/true heat), Metestrus (ovulation), and Diestrus (in between heats).

We only need to focus on the first two: pre-heat and standing heat.

### NO SURPRISES

Cows cycle every 18 to 21 days. A vigilant breeder will mark the calendar and be anticipating the onset of pre-heat.

### PRE-HEAT

Pre-heat behavior includes riding other cows, or letting other cows ride her (but not standing still for it), clear mucus discharge, bawling, restlessness and generally acting up.

### STANDING HEAT

Within 6 to 10 hours after the beginning of pre-heat, her behavior changes and she'll enter "standing" heat, where she will stand still and let herself be mounted.

- Cows in heat try to ride female that are not in heat
- Cows that ride may or may not be in heat
- ONLY cows standing for mounting are in heat

### TIMING IS CRITICAL

Once standing heat is observed the cow should be bred 12 to 18 hours later. Timing is critical. Chances for conception decreases on either side of this 6 hour window. Some breeders use what is called the AM/PM rule:

Standing heat in the AM = breed in the PM

Standing heat in the PM = breed in the AM

The AI tech will usually time his visit 12 hours after the start of standing heat for two reasons. The cow might already have been in heat for a while; or if that cow has a very short heat cycle, then waiting a full 18 hours might be too late.

The timing for a solitary cow is a bit different. Because there are no herd mates, standing heat is more difficult to identify, so instead, be looking for signs of pre-heat. Solitary cows are most receptive to AI 18 to 24 hours after pre-heat begins. Again, timing is critical.

Not seeing your cow come into heat?

Herd managers often remark that most mounting occurs in early morning or during the later evening hours. A study conducted in Canada showed that nearly 70 percent of the mounting occurred between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. This observation suggests that cows are most likely to exhibit mounting activity when they are not distracted by farm activities such as feeding, milking, and barn cleaning. The data may further indicate that cattle prefer to mount during the cooler times of day.

### SILENT HEAT

Some cows have a "silent heat." If this is the case, when you notice blood on them, you know 18 - 24 days later they should be back in heat; but "silent heaters" are the most difficult cows to breed. Look for abnormal activity: a higher level of alertness, a greater degree of affection toward other animals. These subtle signs should be observed and noted.

## HEAT CHEATS

There are a variety of aids to help determine heat, mostly involving paint products that mark (or unmark) when a cow is mounted. The least expensive are paint sticks (available at many farm and feed stores in a variety of colors) or chalk which is rubbed on the tail head. When a cow is in 'standing heat' and being ridden repeatedly, the paint or chalk will be mostly rubbed off.



There are patches that are glued on to the tail head like lottery tickets that have a silver coating that is scratched off revealing the bright color underneath when the cow is mounted.

There are even pressure-sensitive devices with a built-in timing mechanism designed to be activated by standing heat behavior. Glued onto the sacrum (tail head), pressure from the brisket of a mounting animal requires approximately three seconds to turn the detector from white to red.

Each aid has pros and cons, however, these 'tools' should not be expected to replace the trusted method of spending time in the morning and time in the evening each day carefully observing the cattle.

## Insights From A Pro - Mike Luis ABS American Breeders Services

1. Unlike when using the services of a bull, who will mount at the beginning of standing heat, the reason for the delay in breeding AI is because the semen has been frozen. It's not as active as fresh semen and won't live as long, so you want to breed the cow at the very end of her heat cycle when she drops her egg and the semen can do its job.
2. Some cattlemen want to synchronize cows so they can be bred at the same time. Lutalyses shots can be administered (called the "shot program") to force a heat cycle, but many AI techs aren't in favor of them since conception rates can drop to 60 percent (Lewis believes estrogen is being produced, but not always accompanied by an egg).
3. AI breeding can't be planned ahead, by the clock and by the calendar. This is because heat cycles are not rigid in their timing, and cows will vary between one heat cycle and the next. There can be anywhere from 18 to 24 days between cycles. Seventy percent of mature cows cycle every 21 days, so that leaves thirty percent on a different cycle. Heifers are usually a shorter cycle ranging between 17 - 20 days.
4. Conception rates decrease if a cow is bred too early in her heat cycle. Since she doesn't drop her egg until the very end of her cycle, the strongest sperm cells are getting to the fallopian tube first, but they start dying off by the time the egg arrives.
5. Conception rates decrease if a cow is bred too late in her heat cycle. The egg is coming down the fallopian tube, and if it enters the uterus and doesn't meet any sperm cells, it doesn't get fertilized. Sperm cells have to be ready and waiting for the egg to come into the uterus.
6. Be aware some pregnant cows show signs of a "false heat" 21 days after breeding. The cow's body is telling it to produce estrogen, which then kicks in and tells the body it's pregnant. These false heats usually only happen right after an animal is pregnant. Some animals have another false heat about five months after breeding, but this is just another hormone changeover in the cow's body.



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# Pinkeye

Contributed by: Kathy Voth - **On Pasture**.com

**“Translating research and experience into practices you can use NOW!”**

## THE EASIEST WAY TO TREAT PINKEYE

*When visiting Greg and Jan Judy a few weeks ago, I asked Greg “What do you do about pinkeye?”*

*“We don’t treat it,” he said. “We found that if we treated it the cow got better in 2 or 3 weeks. If we didn’t treat it, the cow got better in 2 or 3 weeks.”*

*His response sounds like an old saying I heard from a South Dakota rancher, “You can treat pinkeye and it will get better in a week. Left untreated it will be better in 7 days.”*

## CAUSES OF PINKEYE

**Moraxella bovis is the bacterium responsible for pinkeye** and is found in the eyes of recovered and healthy cattle alike.

The bacteria are spread by face flies, which feed on eye secretions. Face flies play an important role in the spread of pink eye. Whenever a cow’s eye is irritated, it produces secretions that attracts flies, which then pick up the causative agent and spreads it to other animals. And what cattle herd doesn’t have thousands of face flies? Therefore to control pink eye, it is critical to control flies.

But the bacteria alone doesn’t necessarily cause pinkeye. It seems that there needs to be some kind





of added irritation. So flies moving from cow to cow, tall grasses rubbing their eyes, dust and foreign objects in the eye, and ultraviolet (UV) sunlight are all considered potential factors in pinkeye. This last makes breeds without eyelid pigment more susceptible. Calves, especially bull calves, are also more likely to catch pinkeye while adult cattle develop protective antibodies on their eyes' surfaces.

According to Kevin Gould of Michigan State University Extension, how well an animal works through pinkeye can be influenced by things like "nutritional imbalances, such as deficiencies of protein, energy, vitamins (especially vitamin A if the forage is lower quality) and minerals (especially copper and selenium)." He adds that, "The presence of other organisms such as the infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR) virus, mycoplasma, chlamydia and *Branhemella ovis* will increase the incidence and severity of disease.

### **So what do you do?**

On a listserv where farmers and ranchers were sharing their experience with pinkeye, all agreed that prevention was the best cure, describing the different rubs and fly tags they use. A Tennessee farmer said keeping cattle from spending too much time around water was a key. "If they have access to a pond, try to stop that because that only makes the flies worse and almost impossible to fight."

One fellow complained that he thought the vaccines for pinkeye were "water," and he's not too far wrong. "The pinkeye vaccine has been disappointing as the sole means of controlling pinkeye," says Gould. "There are over 20 strains of the *M. bovis* bacteria and continuous mutation occurs in the bacteria. While the vaccines contain the most common strains of *M. bovis*, they do not contain all the strains that occur."

### **Preventing Pinkeye**

Since prevention is better than the cure, a combination of fly control, vaccination, and pasture management is the best approach.

Pasture management is an underappreciated tech-

nique for controlling pink eye. Grass seed heads can irritate eyes, causing them to tear and attracting more face flies. Trimming (mowing) pastures can help reduce this source of irritation.

The benefits of pasture mowing are discussed in "To Mow or not to Mow" article on page 12

Fly control methods are discussed in accompanying On The Fly article

### **Know The Signs**

The first clinical signs of infection are when a cow squints. Soon after the initial infection, the cornea begins to cloud up and eventually becomes completely white. If not treated, an ulcer will form on the cornea which in extreme cases causes permanent blindness. The eye pain and stress caused by pink eye can result in extreme weight loss (or lack of weight gain, in the case of calves).

### **Treatment**

#### **Antibiotics**

The trick for effective treatment of pink eye is to catch it early. If "no treatment at all" leaves you feeling cruel or negligent, the most common treatment is a long-acting oxytetracycline antibiotic; however since resistance is increasing and there are many different strains of bacteria involved, a culture and sensitivity test may be needed to determine which antibiotic will be most effective against the bacteria.

#### **Vaccines**

There are several vaccines against pink eye which might be helpful, but the availability of these doesn't negate the need to control flies. Pink eye vaccines require a booster dose for greater efficiency.

#### **UV Patches**

A debated technique for controlling pink eye is using eye patches to protect the eyes from sunlight. Since ultraviolet rays can activate enzymes that cause more damage to an eye already infected, shielding the eyes can help ... maybe.

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# On The Fly



*(Left to Right) House fly, stable fly, horn fly and face fly.*

## Know the difference

Horn flies, face flies, and stable flies are not just irritants to our livestock, they can affect grazing distribution and transmit eye diseases such as pinkeye and infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (IBR). It is difficult to predict what fly levels will be like for any given year, but hot, dry weather usually results in high numbers.

It is important to understand identification and life cycles of pests affecting livestock in order to choose the most effective control options.

### Horn flies

Horn flies are one of the most common and harmful insect pests that affect cattle during the summertime. Horn flies are about 1/2 to 1/3 the size of the common house fly. Adult females deposit eggs in fresh manure, and the eggs typically hatch within 18 hours. The total life cycle of the horn fly is between 10 and 14 days. As adults, they spend most of their time on cattle, piercing the skin of host animals to suck blood. Horn flies may take between 30 and 40 blood meals per day. If left untreated, densities of horn flies may reach several hundred flies per animal by mid-summer.

### Face Flies

Face flies resemble house flies but are slightly larger

and darker. They are non-biting flies that cluster around animals' eyes, mouth, and muzzle to feed on animal secretions. Females lay eggs in fresh manure from cattle on pasture, with the complete life cycle taking around 21 days. They are usually most numerous in pastures that have a lot of shaded areas and waterways. Face flies can cause damage to eye tissues which can predispose animals to infection, and control of these pests is essential in controlling pinkeye.

Because of the locations on the animal in which face flies feed and the fact that these flies are not on the animal most of the time, control of face flies can be difficult. Although there are a variety of methods that can be used, use of UV mesh fly masks are the only method that will be 100% effective.

### Stable Flies

Stable flies are the size of a house fly but darker in color. These are blood-feeding flies that mainly feed on the front legs. Cattle often react to stable flies by bunching, stomping their legs, or standing in water.

One of the best ways to eliminate stable flies is to remove sources of organic matter that create breeding grounds. Cleaning areas where cattle were fed during the winter and drying down manure by



spreading it or dragging fields will help reduce fly populations.

## Fly control

Using a multi-pronged approach to fly control will never eliminate flies, but it should help keep your herd healthy and more comfortable.

## Pasture Rotation

Flies tend to stay in the same pasture even after cows leave, so by rotating cattle periodically over the summer, the flies don't find them as easily, especially if they're not in a pasture immediately adjacent to where they were before.

If you mow your pastures, dragging a small harrow behind the mower will break up the manure patties and give the flies less places to reproduce.

## Chemical Free

Fly traps, fly paper, and fly masks all have their place in a fly control program. The effectiveness of even simple traps can reduce the populations of face flies and stable flies, but are ineffective on horn flies. For horn flies, a walk thru fly trap where the flies are knocked off and become trapped in the enclosed chute is known to be effective. Plans for a walk thru trap are on the PDCA website: [dexterstoday.com/walk-thru-fly-trap](http://dexterstoday.com/walk-thru-fly-trap)

## Insecticides

Sprays and pour-ons require applications every 2 to 3 weeks, which may not be feasible for some producers' summer grazing situations.

Ear tags, containing an insecticide that moves from the surface of the tag to the coat of the animal, are easy

to apply and can be effective. However, do not use the same type of insecticide tag two years in a row. A few other tips: Tag animals as late as possible to ensure maximum effectiveness when horn flies are present. Do not tag earlier than June 1st. Remove used tags at the end of the season to reduce the incidence of resistance.

Use high quality tags. Inexpensive tags are generally not as effective. Tag mature cows and weaned calves, but there is no need to tag nursing calves. Horn flies typically do not bother calves.

Dust bags or oilers may be either force-used (placed in an area that animals must pass through) or free choice. They offer good control, but require time to be spent checking and repairing bags.

Feed additive products contain insecticides that pass through the animal's digestive system and kill horn fly larvae in the manure. While these additives are effective in reducing the number of larvae, this does not necessarily correlate to a reduction in the number of adults since flies will migrate to and from neighboring herds. It is also difficult to control intake of these feed additives, and some animals may not eat enough of the feed additive for the insecticide to be effective.

Researchers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln have conducted trials on some of the newer options available for horn fly control, including insecticide strips that attach to the button side of an existing ear tag and CO<sub>2</sub>-powered device that delivers pyrethroid. Both of these methods appear to result in acceptable control, with reported reductions in horn fly populations between 81% and 89%.



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# To Mow Pastures, or Not to Mow

To mow down what seems to be perfectly lush pasture – especially when you need a place to graze cattle – seems like a counter-intuitive question. Of course you don't want to mow down good grazing – right?

Maybe.

Mowing, often called clipping, might be a beneficial practice depending on previous pasture management and current grazing system. The need to clip is, in the words of Victor Shelton, NRCS State Agronomist/Grazing Specialist, “site specific and a personal preference.” He adds: “If the pasture has been grazed once or twice already, then it probably really does not have that many seed heads present, and depending on how it was grazed, weeds either.”

Clipping is a preferred method under certain criteria. If the pasture has many weeds, if woody species want to take over, and if the cattle are continuously grazed, than mowing is beneficial (largely for weed

control). Mowing under these conditions resets desirable plants, which in turn promotes a more even grazing pattern in summer and early fall.

But if pastures are rotated on a regular basis, than mowing (clipping) may not be best. Rotating pasture allows sections to rest. Multi-species grazing (such as sheep or goats along with cattle) promotes uniform grazing and helps control weeds. These animals can be rotated behind or in front of cattle.

If good pasturage out-competes the weeds, then clipping may not be necessary. But weeds, being the good opportunists they are (and often spreading by both seed and rhizomes), can be a problem on pastures with thin cover. Sometimes herbicide treatments may be necessary for weed control as well, though broadleaf herbicides will also kill beneficial plants such as legumes.

But one reason which might tip the scales one way or the other is the issue of pink eye in cattle.

**Sometimes it helps to make a list of pros and cons to determine whether clipping is the best option. According to the University of Illinois Extension, here is a summary:**

## Pros

**Weed control**

**Uniform regrowth of preferred vegetation**

**Permits sunlight to reach down to preferred vegetation**

**Eliminates seed heads and reduces potential for eye irritation**

## Cons

**Expense: fuel, equipment, labor costs**

**Raises soil temperature by exposing ground to sunlight**

**Reduces natural re-seeding of desired plants**

**Clipping pastures in the boot stage of the plant can deplete root reserves**

**Mowing too close to the ground can stunt plant regrowth by removing too much leaf**



# *It's all about the* **GRASS**

Mowing may not be necessary if pink eye is not a problem. If pink eye is an issue in your herd, mowing may help improve the situation. Seed heads don't independently cause pink eye, but when seed heads are coupled with other problems such as flies, pollen, and other irritants, then a pink eye situation can be exacerbated. By mowing and thus keeping seed heads under control, you can help the battle against pink eye (although controlling flies is the first priority).

## **Determine the Reason**

People choose to mow pastures for everything from aesthetics to weed control. If your goal is to control weeds, mowing can help. If your goal is to have pretty pastures, you might be better off leaving it alone.


"Somewhere along the way we decided that pastures should look like mowed lawns," notes Shelton. "That quite often promotes monocultures instead of

diversity, and possibly lower production especially if it turns dry. ... Taller forages produce more live roots providing some drought resilience, helping to shade out some weeds, providing for slightly cooler soils and maintaining moisture which can promote more growth from cool season forages instead of less desirable plants. They also have the added benefit of some wildlife habitat, especially certain pollinator species."

As with most pasture management systems, the question of whether or not to mow will depend heavily on your particular circumstances. The University of Illinois Extension sums it up this way: "In most cases, clipping pastures is a very low return on investment practice and results on no return on investment in many years. Developing a rotational grazing system with frequent rotations and adequate rest will result in more return on investment and reduce the time and money spent on mowing pastures."



# Farm Events to Attract New Customers and Profit

Contributed by: Charlotte Smith,  3 Cow Marketing

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Food in our society is a commodity. In other words, the cheaper the better. That's what the average shoppers expect.

As a farmer, it is impossible to compete with the low prices and convenience of any industrially priced food.

Unfortunately, many farmers do try to compete on price and convenience, and they find they can't keep it up and they're out of business within a year or two. Or, they continue pumping money into their business from their off-farm job or savings.

Again, completely unsustainable.

As farmers, though, we do have an opportunity to level the playing field, a way that can help us rise to the top in the competitive game, to the point where there is no longer any competition.

And that opportunity is the experience, the connection, and the feeling we can give a customer or potential customer when they come across us on the internet or in person.

When you practice marketing from the heart, there is no competition.

Many farmers overlook this great opportunity. When you can connect with your customers (from the heart) they will be loyal and price is no longer a concern.

How can you meet customers and gain exposure to your farm? PLAN EVENTS

Give people a reason to drive to your farm and see what you're doing and interact with you. The event itself is not as important as the opportunity to interact the event provides.

You can plan and schedule a paid farm tour for a Saturday morning (I always charge \$20 minimum, so people show up.) You'll have people coming for the tour, bringing their family, experiencing farm-life and you'll make a little money, too.

Plus, they'll be hooked and want to come back

again and again. The connection they make with you (their farmer) and the experience they have will be worth driving miles to buy from you.

Most of our customers drive 30-60+ minutes one-way to pick up their order at our farm. Many of them would never drive out of their way for a dozen eggs. The reason they do is because I've made a connection with them.

Not only do they go home with eggs, they'll now drive an hour one way for their eggs, milk and chicken because they now have an emotional connection to us and our farm.

All from a simple farm tour!

And they don't concern themselves with price, because they aren't shopping with us for the price. They're now shopping with us for the experience and the emotional connection we intentionally created with them.

Here are all the events I've hosted through the years to build a strong, loyal (and profitable) customer base from the start:

- Cheese/home dairying classes
- Bread baking classes
- Farm tours
- Kids camps
- Teen camps
- Farm to table dinner
- Milk the cow class
- Book club
- Wine tastings
- Nutrition classes
- Lard making classes

And I didn't need any special training to host any of these events! Being a dairy woman, I already knew how to make butter, yogurt and several cheeses.

So I started inviting people over to make it with me



# BETTER *Business*

and it soon morphed into classes at \$150/person.

Then, I invited my girlfriend over to teach bread baking. Boy, did we have fun baking, eating our way through class, and every one of those women couldn't wait to come back again and again and shop with us.

Plus, they told all their friends.

Do you know how many people have "cow milking" on their bucket list? That was one of our most popular events! And again, they are customers for life after milking a cow.

Pet a kitten, feed the horse a carrot, get snotted on by a cow — when these things happen to people they are connected to you for life.

And cost is no object to experience these things you can't find on Google or Amazon! They are happy to pay the sustainable price you need to charge, even if it's double what the local farm stand or store is charging.

Here is a short list of things to think about and what you might need:

- Insurance
- Rules/boundaries for guests
- Supplies
- Parking
- Accommodations
- Bathroom facility
- Bottled water for hot days
- Extra help – parking, socializing, showing to the toilet, answering Q's while you teach/lead and clean up help

If you're looking to grow your customer base and build a profit, plan and host an event where you give customers an experience of a lifetime.

## Charlotte Smith

*Named a food rebel, pioneer and visionary by PBS's Food Forward TV, and a "Pioneering Leader in Raw Milk Production" by Mark McAfee, CEO Organic Pastures Dairy, and Food Tank named her one of the 25*

*"World's Most Influential Women in Food and Ag"*



*has created a sustainable farm-to-consumer business selling premium meats, poultry, eggs and milk. After witnessing one too many small business owners close up shop after being run ragged and still not being able to pay the bills*

*with their sales, she founded 3 Cow Marketing to help others transform their marketing skills and begin to live the life they always dreamed of.*

## *Coming in October*

## FREE WEBINAR

Charlotte Smith - Marketing From The Heart

### 3 STEPS TO BUILD

### YOUR PROFITABLE FARM



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## Downsizing: The Popularity of ‘Shorties’

by: Patrice Lewis

As most breeders know, Dexters come in two forms: long-legged and short-legged. Historically, the short-legged variety was preferred. After all, it's what made Dexters ... well, Dexters. Long-legged Dexters would have been considered something of an oxymoron, like jumbo shrimp.

With the advent of the science of genetics it was discovered that the very trait that made a Dexter a Dexter (short legs) was unfortunately due to a genetic mutation in the ACAN gene which causes dwarfism, more commonly known as chondrodysplasia. To the frustration of breeders the mutation can also cause severely malformed calves, often

called “bulldogs” which are usually aborted midway through gestation.

“The calf that inherits only one copy of the mutation may show a range of physical effects,” notes an article in the Heritage Dexter Cattle Registry of Australia. “These effects of the single copy are actually the desired phenotype for which the Dexter breed is known for. ... And these Dexters live long, happy lives.”

It is only when a calf inherits two copies of the mutation (one from each parent) that risks a chance of being a “bulldog calf.”



*Paul Whittington at the 2018 OVBDA Show*

# Small Cows, Big LOVE

As the genetics became better understood, cattlemen learned breeding a carrier to a carrier statistically meant only a 25 percent chance of a bulldog calf, which usually aborts around six months' gestation. However there is also a 25 percent chance of a long-legged non-chondro calf that doesn't have chondro, and can never produce a carrier.

Many breeders simply avoided breeding the short-legged phenotype and bred the longer-legged varieties, or at best bred a long-legged with a short-legged to avoid the chances of a double-recessive bulldog calf.

Due to the research of Dr. Julie Cavanagh from the University of Sydney, a genetic test was developed allowing Dexter breeders to identify animals which carry the chondro gene and avoid bulldog calves while embracing the dwarf characteristics that make Dexters such desirable animals

The genetic stigma of short-legged Dexters automatically carrying the mutated gene is taking some time to retreat in the Dexter world. However some breeders have never abandoned their love for the endearing characteristics of short legs. Let's talk to a few.

## Small Cows, Big Love

"I love my chondros because they seem to be more docile than the non-carriers," says Larry Haggard of Wabi Sabi Farm in Mississippi. "I didn't know about them until after I purchased my first trio of Dexters. When I saw my first ones, I fell in love with them. I have two 11-year-old chondros that so far, I've not seen any problems with them."

Paul Whittington of Whittington's Dexters in Ohio also fell in love with the little cows. "We started with all long-legs," he relates, "but after seeing some short-legged cows, I had to have one. She calved with no problems, so we decided to buy a short-legged bull and breed our long-legged cows to him to get more short-legged calves. We now have 25 to 30 short-legged females and will eventually sell off all of our long-legged females."

Hans Peterson of Lakeport Dexters in Michigan,  
[www.purebreddextercattle.com](http://www.purebreddextercattle.com) - Summer 2018

unabashedly enjoys his wee beasties and agrees about their disposition. "We

have about 75 short-

ies in our herd," he

says. "I believe

we have the larg-

est herd of short-

legged Dexters in the

country by a considerable mar-

gin. Short-legged

Dexters are generally

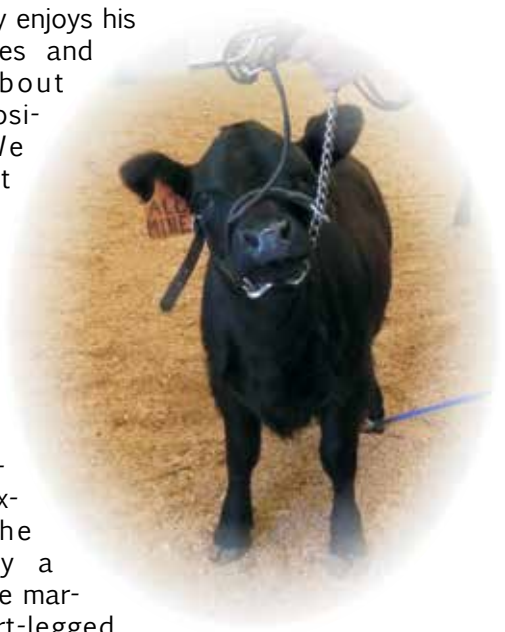
more docile and calm than the long-legged Dexters.

With such a large herd, we have a lot of experience with this. The short-legs just don't move as fast, and so they are more likely to think before deciding to run off. We work with all of our cattle, and have some super-sweet long-legged Dexters as well, but they appear less frequently than the short-legged Dexters."

Affection for chondro cattle doesn't eliminate the need for genetic vigilance, however. "I test all my animals and I have a non-carrier bull," notes Haggard, "so there's no problem about breeding two carriers together."

Whittington understands the genetic responsibility of breeding shorties. "We keep our herds separated," he says, "and only breed the short-legged cows to long-legged bulls and the long-legged cows to the short-legged bulls."

Peterson also minimizes breeding hazards. "We keep the short leg herds separate from the long-legged herds, in different pastures and usually separated by a buffer zone of an aisle or drive, so the chance of the short leg bull going through the fence(s) to breed short leg cows or heifers is minimal. Our





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## *Continued*

short-leg bulls just don't test the fences at all. We use five-wire high-tensile electric."

### **More Cow, Less Feed**

Whittington tallies some of the benefits of the short-legged variety. "We like how they maintain their body condition in the winter on one-third less hay," he says. "Visitors can't get over how they hold their body condition in the winter time on no grain and how fat they are in the summer time on only grass. They love to see that little calf on that little cow!"

Feed requirements factors large for the small animals. "We sell a number of our steers at six months," says Whittington. "Long-legged steers wean off of our short-legged cows at 50-60 percent of their dam's body weight, and the short legged steers are 40-45 percent of their dam's body weight. Our short -legged steers finish out at 18 months at 600 pounds. We can keep more cows per acre. The reason there is not an over-supply of short-legged cattle is because you only have a 25 percent chance of getting a short-legged heifer."

Peterson confirms Whittington's observations about feed requirements. "Short-leg cows consume about 60 to 65 percent of the feed of their non-carrier counterparts," he states. "For the past two winters here in Michigan, where we feed hay about six months of the year, I have kept identical-size herds of short- and long-legged Dexter cows with two bulls in each group, numbering about 35 in each group. They were at similar stages of lactation or gestation. For every five bales of hay I put in with the long-legged herd, I'd feed three bales to the short-legged herd. They were identical round bales 4x5, fed in identical hay saver feeders. Obviously with deep snow on the ground there is no chance of any grazing. We don't feed grain. Despite the feed differences, the short-legged cows still have noticeably better BCS (Body Condition) scores, at least one to two points higher."

### **Visitor Reactions**

The reaction of visitors to the short-legged variety is typical of what attracts people to Dexters, says Haggard. "They always gravitate to the chondros and say, 'That's what we want.'"

Peterson agrees. "We've had visitors to our farm, looking for long-legged Dexters to purchase. Before they visit, our conversations or e mail were basically, 'I don't want that chondro gene in my herd.' They have heard all of the stories by breeders who

advertise their herds as 'chondro and PHA free,' essentially making chondro synonymous with PHA and making it as undesirable as PHA [Pulmonary Hypoplasia with Anasarca], and many of those same breeders condemn the carriers as 'not real cattle' and emphasize 'lethal genetic defect' to the point where the visitors to our farm have a pre-conceived idea that chondro is to be avoided at all cost and should be eradicated. After visiting our farm, and standing in the middle of 30 to 40 short-legged cows begging for attention, they decide that they want to raise short-legged Dexters after all!"

In fact, the popularity of short-legged Dexters is so widespread that establishing a herd can be challenging. Why?

"It's really hard to get owners to part with their short-legged Dexter cows!" says Peterson. "They are often the farm favorites. If somebody is raising short-legged cows, using a long-legged bull, with only 50 percent of the calves being short-legged, and 50 percent of the calves being bulls rather than heifers, in the lifetime of the (above) average cow (14 years, 12 calves), you will statistically get only three short-legged heifers out of her, which is one to replace her, one to expand the herd, and one to sell. So there is a natural built in rarity to the short-legged Dexter."

Peterson adds, "The only way to expand the numbers significantly is for some breeders to run a herd of long-legged cows with a short-legged bull. There will not be any kind of population explosion with short leg Dexters anytime soon!"

### **Reputation Shorted**

Due to the size of his herd and his observations over the years of short-legged Dexters, Peterson has some strong opinions on the subject. "More damage is done to the Dexter breed by these breeders who want chondro eliminated than by any other outside force," he says. "There are so many misconceptions about it that potential buyers turn to Miniature Herefords, Miniature Jersey, Miniature Zebus, or Lowline Angus when they would be much better served by the Dexter breed. These breeders don't realize that for every person they may convince that chondro is to be avoided and they should only have long-legged Dexters, dozens of people are turned off entirely to the Dexter breed and go purchase one of the other small homestead type breeds."

Something to think about whenever we see the little cattle everyone knows and loves.



## Carol Ferrell- Coldwater, Ms

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Carol Ferrell is new to exhibiting Dexters, and she bubbles with enthusiasm for the experience. "I am very competitive and love the challenge of competi-

tion," she relates. "When I first fell in love with these wonderful little cows I had visions of showing them. I've shown horses for over 60 years, so I just knew Dexters would be fun to show. I feel showing the product you raise helps you know how your breeding program is coming along – are you heading in the right direction or falling off the path? – and not only do you get to advertise your animals, but you get to meet and learn from other Dexter folks."

Ferrell admits most Dexter-only shows don't attract as many outside folks. However whenever the public meets the little cows for the first time, their reaction is amazement. "They are not intimidated by them because of their size and friendliness," says Ferrell. "I have taken my steer Willie to different events to introduce him to the public. We get a lot of great reactions with very few negatives. One negative was from a gentleman who said, 'What are you going to do with that little thing?' My reply was, 'Eat them, milk them, or work them.' He didn't know what to say after my daughter added, 'Why raise anything so large you can only put half in your freezer?' End of conversation!"

To prepare herself for showing Dexters, Ferrell solicited a friend to set up a showmanship clinic at her farm where attendees could learn show to train, how to clip coats, and how to trim hooves. Ferrell learned the grooming differences between horses and cattle. "I had to learn about blow-drying their coats and the types of brushes for their bodies and the different types of brushes for their tails."



## Laura Christofk - Grass Valley, Ca

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Someone forwarded me a request to exhibit Dexters

at the Mother Lode Highland Games & Celtic Festival. I have been preaching that breeders need to get their Dexters out in public more, so I accept that this is the universe telling me to practice what I preach. Plus... we needed something fun for our new Sierra Dexter's breeder club to do... so killing 2 birds with one stone, I commit.

I wish I had started the "re-training" sooner, but seven days prior is better than nothing. I had not worked with any of my heifers for at least a year, so plan A was to use the youngest (because she is the smallest) who is just over a year old. I needed to move that group to a summer pasture anyways so more killing birds with one stone. When we load them up in the trailer I consider personalities and being in public vs just small size and decide I might be better off with 2-year-old, Dolly. She has

always had the best temperament of them all, but her horns!... Dolly it is.

Day 1 – Get a halter on her. Ha! She had other ideas, like skewer me with her horns! I will admit I was intimidated. I needed some horns of my own, so I create one with the hard handle end of a big heavy screw driver – she dropped her head to push – I whopped her right between the eyes! She threatened to drop her head and push – I whopped again! Haltering is much easier when they think you have bigger horns than they do and are not afraid to use them – who knew.

Over the next five days I gradually re-trained Dolly to walk on the lead line, get in the trailer, and stand tied. With no way to desensitize her to a group of people – that training had to be done at the festival grounds the day before.

I think the more stimuli the better, as the sensory



# Exhibiting DEXTERS

Ferrell did a lot of lead-training and training her animals to listen to her cues and trust her. "Which is great exercise and keeps me busy! Maybe a little busier than I need to be," she joked. She brushes them daily, which not only keeps the animals healthy, but it gives them attention and builds their trust.

When the show itself arrives, the pace picks up. "They all get clipped and bathed before the show," says Ferrell. "Before their first show, I loaded the animals up and took them to arenas in the area to get them used to the trailer and going to different places, so they wouldn't be in a total panic, though I'm not sure it was really necessary because they're not as panicky as horses."

Ferrell felt the judging was very fair. "Like any competition, you are paying for the judge's opinion, and the great thing is they explain why and how they placed each animal in the class. This helps you learn about your animal, as well as others. Even if someone doesn't agree with their placing, they know the judge's logic."

When it comes time to describe what Ferrell learned about showing Dexters, it's that cows are a lot smarter than she ever thought. "They don't forget what you teach them," she explained. "I can take some of my heifers out a year after not being handled, halter them, and stand them up and lead them like they were in the show ring."

Showing her animals increased Ferrell's faith in humanity. "Dexter folks are great people. Showing and caring for these cows is such a great learning tool."

Ferrell's tip for anyone wanting to learn about showing their animals: "Get in touch with someone with experience showing, even if they're not showing Dexters. What you learn can always be adapted to Dexters. Read all you can and visit shows. Talk to – or should I say, listen to – what other handlers have to say."

Ferrell adds, "You bet I'm going to continue showing my Dexters! It's very rewarding and a wonderful learning experience. Besides loving these cows, the people are great!"

overload seemed to actually calm her – go figure.

Next morning we dolled up in our celtic costumes and hit the streets. Yep. Me and Dolly walked down the main street of the fairgrounds like Disney characters at Disneyland. People were taking pics of the cute little cow, and with the cute little cow. To my amazement, Dolly was great! With our confidence high we agreed to be in the big parade. Ahhhhhh! Six marching bagpipe drum bands would pass us as we waited for our place at the end. Surreal! Maybe she recognized the music, maybe the tartans looked familiar, maybe the regalia reminded her of a heritage she had never known. Whatever, Dolly was amongst her people. How cool is that!

I had every reason to not do this event, but I am so glad I did! There were no ribbons, trophies or prize money, but we were definitely richly rewarded. We are already planning for the next one – it was that much fun!





*Where the cows are the stars*

*Visit Our Website!*

[www.dextercattleclub.com](http://www.dextercattleclub.com)

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## NOTICE!

**Meeting Agenda and Elections will be discussed and posted on the Club Facebook Group, and in a separate email sent to all members by July 15.**

## DCCT Annual Membership & Open Show

How a year flies by! As we all scramble to get our hay supplies for the 2018-2019 winter, its time to make those plans to attend the 2nd annual DCCT General Meeting and Show.

Once again we will have our meeting following the Dexter Cattle Show at the Wilson County Fair on August 20. This show is open to all registered Dexter Cattle and all Dexter owners and enthusiasts. Club members will once again be awarded special recognition during the Club's annual meeting after the evening show. All are welcome to the meeting. Only members who have paid dues by July 1, 2018 will be eligible for special Club member awards.

**Sunday, August 19** - Dexter Cattle May arrive in the evening (not mandatory)

**Monday, August 20** - Dexter Cattle must be in place by 3 p.m.  
Dexter Cattle Show 5 p.m.  
DCCT Meeting & Awards Ceremony (30 minutes after show)  
Dexter Cattle released after show.

**Tuesday, August 21** - Dexter Cattle Must be removed by 8 a.m.



## Did you Know????

The Wilson County Fair in Lebanon, TN is one of the 10 largest fairs in the whole United States! It draws over 500,000 spectators who still strive to keep in touch with their rural roots. Judged contests for agriculture, horticulture and livestock are always an important part of the Wilson County Fair. Come show your support for the Fair's acceptance of Dexter Cattle as part of their venue!

What a way to market your Dexters! Bring them to the show! This show is very beginner-friendly, and as always, there are awesome Club members there to help and support each other!

Wilson County Fair, 945 E Baddour Pkwy, Lebanon, TN 37087

\*Tennessee Health Requirements apply to all cattle.

Results for Crossword (Beast of Burden) Spring Newsletter:

Across: 3. Dystocia 7. Clostridial 8. Abomasum 10. Squeeze Chut 11. Gestation 14. Freshened 15. August 16. Balling Gun 20. Withers 21. PapillomaVirus 22. Ringworm 23. Clinic 24. Kelp 25. Horns 26. Eighteen



## It's Time To Celebrate New Life!

One of the reasons a lot of us have Dexter Cattle is their fantastic ease of calving and maternal drive to take care of their newborn calves. This is especially true for those of us who used to raise other breeds of cattle.

Dexters ARE something special! Don't sell them short by thinking all cattle have calves (and raise them) as easily as Dexters.

Do things go wrong? Yes, sometimes. In all species of mammals things can happen that put your cow and her calf in jeopardy of survival.

As your calf crop gets nearer to arrival, be proactive. Have a vet you trust visit your farm. Have a birthing kit ready just in case the need arises.

Enjoy the season and all of the precious new lives it welcomes!



## More Regional Events

**August 14** - Grass-fed Beef Workshop - Ed Jones Agri-Plex Auditorium Trenton, TN Sponsored by: UT-TSU Extension Gibson Co. -

Danny Morris - danhmorr@utk.edu - (731) 855-7656  
Pre registration deadline Aug. 3rd.

**August 16** - Missouri State Fair Open Dexter Show - Sedalia, MO  
- [www.mostatefair.com](http://www.mostatefair.com)

**August 20** - DCCT Annual Membership and Open show at the Wilson County Fair in Lebanon, TN! Contact a club rep for more information but **SAVE THE DATE!** This can be a show and go or an over-night, arriving Sunday the 19th and released after the show, or leave the next morning (Tuesday 21st). Special awards for DCCT members given at the Member-ship meeting after the show! ALL are welcome!

**\*\*\*\*\* We need volunteers to help!\*\*\*\*\***

- Secure sponsors • Gate keeper • Ribbon runner • Show photographer • Awards

**A great show and meeting takes volunteers!**

Please contact your regional rep or me at:  
[Dcct.president@gmail.com](mailto:Dcct.president@gmail.com)

Results for Crossword (Beast of Burden) Spring Newsletter:  
Down: 1. Homozygous 2. Lactating 3. Digit 4. Coccidiosis 5. Stanchion  
6. WilsonCountyFair 9. Heterozygous 12. Bloat 13. Colostrum  
17. Palpation 18. Guernsey 19. Lebanon



Your Club Representatives:

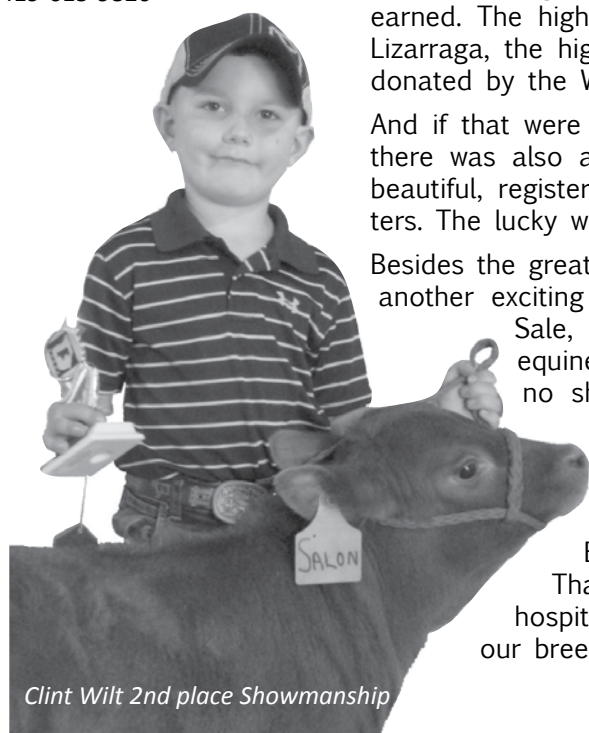
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Clint Wilt 2nd place Showmanship

## 6th Annual Show and Sale Highlights

On May 19th I was lucky to be able to attend the OVDBA 's sixth Annual Show & Sale in the historical and unique show barn at the Fairfield County Fairgrounds in Lancaster Ohio

Like other local breeders groups throughout the country, OVDBA began with just a handful of devoted members and now, 6 years later boasts 56 members, and growing. It is no surprise why. The camaraderie, helpfulness and friendliness of all involved is truly refreshing and just plain fun to be a part of. From kiddos to oldsters, all are involved.

OVDBA is a deliberately association neutral club where all Dexter owners are welcome and they are 100% committed to keeping any negative association politics out of their club and events. Hip-hip-hooray!

The day before the big show, championship showman Sally Coad from Freedom Farm in Tennessee had a packed show ring as she gave her annual Showmanship Clinic for newbies just starting out and for those brushing up on their showmanship skills and sort of "test driving" their animals before show day.

A primary focus of OVDBA is, "Promoting the breed along with our youth" and this was more than evident in the show ring. Out of 104 showmen 34 were under eighteen years old, and many of those were what I call "Pee Wee's." Little kids showing little cows... oh, it just does not get any cuter than that!

The teen showmen... They may lack that "cuteness factor" that the pee-wee's have, but they have a huge "WOW! factor" in the show ring." Very skilled showmen. It was obvious this was not their "first rodeo".

The involvement of youth in OVDBA is not just in the show ring. Youth activities are organized throughout the year where participation points can be earned. The high point youth is then acknowledged and rewarded. Gabriel Lizarraga, the high point youth this year was rewarded with a Dexter steer donated by the Whites of Whites High Low Farm.

And if that were not enough "promoting the breed along with their youth," there was also a raffle for all the youth showmen that day. The prize: a beautiful, registered, red, polled, A2/A2, heifer donated by Wittington Dexters. The lucky winner: 6 year old Cash Hazelton!

Besides the great turn out, well planned and well executed event, there was another exciting buzz going around. A few weeks prior to their Show & Sale, OVDBA had the opportunity to exhibit Dexters at a large equine event. Although this event targets horse lovers, there was no shortage of new Dexter lovers. The Dexters were a hit! It was exciting to hear their feedback of the event. Several breeders that exhibited had already closed sales that came from the exposure and others had very promising potential buyers, proving the power of public exposure... But, that is another article.

Thanks again OVDBA for your warm hospitality to me, and for promoting our breed so well - you inspire me.

*Love  
Laura  
From California*

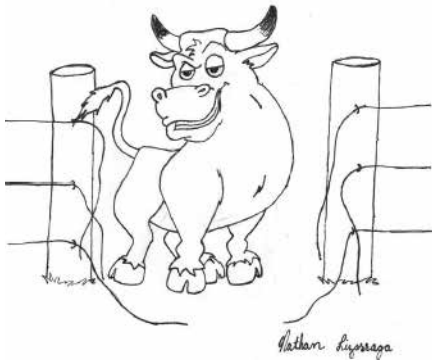
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**Complete show results are posted on the OVDBA website**



## To Catch A Bull

by: Nathan M. Lizarraga



Going to pick up Jocko, our new Dexter bull that had little, if any, interaction with people, proved to be a very difficult task. In 2017 my father purchased the seven-year-old herd bull. We thought we were well prepared with the three people we had brought. He, my uncle, and I went to pick him up. We had a tough time trying to load the 1000 lb. bull onto the trailer. When we tried to bring it up from the back pasture it would put its head down

to get away. If you got in its way it would go around you intending not to hurt anyone. We cornered it so that the only place he could go was inside the trailer, but he just ripped a hole in a fence to escape.

My uncle joked that we could call the bull “Moses” because he effortlessly parted the fence. We chased him through a soy bean field and down the road, and several people went out of their way to help us. We chased it into the barn and got a halter on him, but the owner, who was guarding the door, let the bull past. Exhausted and worn-out, we decided to quit for the day.

We asked the owner to feed the bull grain in the barn for a week so he would get used to coming up from the pasture. A week later, prepared with more people for the second round with our new bull, we brought a round corral to set up and a different trailer to transport the corral. We trapped our new bull in the round pen, but he continued to try to escape. The round pen had legs so that it could stand up, but the legs made a gap between it and the ground. Determined to get away, he put his head underneath it and got away. Normally when a bull is angry, you can see it in his eyes and his posture. He didn’t have a look of anger. He just looked skittish and nervous. It was impossible to get near him without him backing away. Not intending to give up, we decided to put it upside down so that he couldn’t get his head underneath. After a lot of effort and frustration, we finally got him into the trailer.

Even though he provided a tough challenge, he never hurt anyone. That same seven-year old herd bull has been at home with all our other cattle since last summer. Although he has not been halter broken, he is no longer afraid of people.

## Bovine at the Equine Affaire?

by: Anita Praisler, Medina Ohio

One of the reasons a lot of us have Dexter Cattle is their fantastic ease of calving and maternal drive to Oh yes! What a wonderful opportunity and experience.

The OVDBA was invited to set up a display at the Columbus Equine Affaire in their “Your Farm Forum” area. The presence of Dexter’s generated a lot of excitement from all age groups. We spoke with hundreds of people that have farming experience with many different kinds of animals. Some had never heard of the Dexter breed and others were looking for them and couldn’t find them. The common responses that we heard that are holding people back is lack of knowledge and exposure to the breed. Many have farmed with other breeds of cattle and were not satisfied with the outcome, whether it was due to temperament, size, manageability, space or not being able to have cattle with their other animals due to aggression. Dexter’s have changed that way of farming. The hardiness and disposition of the Dexter breed is obviously a big positive for people interested in small scale farming.

What I have come to realize is that the passion for family farming and homesteading is still very much present. The level of interest and passion that people expressed was fabulous. Hopefully the intense love and passion for the Dexter breed will continue to grow while leading families back to the joyful basics of life.

Great thanks to the Equine Affaire for your invitation and passion for family farming.

## More Regional Clubs

### Rocky Mountain Dexter Breeders [www.rockymountaindexter.com](http://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.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**September 6 - 8**

Utah State Fair  
Go to website for  
more info



### Legacy Breeders [legacybreeders.org](http://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.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Aug 16**

Missouri State Fair  
Dexter Show  
Go to website  
for more info



### Sierra States Dexter Community [www.dexterstoday.com/sierrastates](http://www.dexterstoday.com/sierrastates)

This is a community about all things relating to pastures, grasses, farming, ranching, sustainability, soil regenerative agriculture, and small farm stewardship.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**August 8 - 12**

Sonoma County Fair  
Go to website  
for more info



**Dexter SHOW**  
August 16, 2018

Sponsored By



OPEN TO ALL REGISTERED DEXTERS  
LEGACY - PDCA - ADCA



**Dexter SHOW**  
Sept 6-8

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**ROCKY MOUNTAIN**  
DEXTER BREEDER ASSOCIATION

*First Annual* **SEPT 29**  
**COLDWATER MISSISSIPPI**  
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(844) PDCA-NOW  
WWW.DEXTERSTODAY.COM

## Purebred Dexter Cattle Association

### ALL-IN-ONE FORM

MEMBERSHIP - REGISTRATION - REGISTRATION+TRANSFER

**TRANSFER ONLY INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE**

**I am Submitting** and including payment for:

- ☐ \$20 **New Member**    ☐ \$20 **Registration**  
☐ \$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, 2017)

Farm 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    ☐ Dun (Tested/Proven)    ☐ Red (Tested/Proven)

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Register + Transfer**    Date of sale \_\_\_\_\_

Buyer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Ph (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Certified Registration** I am submitting proof indicating:  
 (Sire and Dam verification not required)

- ☐ Genotype on file    ☐ Sire Verified    ☐ Dam Verified  
☐ PHA Positive    ☐ PHA Negative  
☐ Chondro Positive    ☐ Chondro Negative

Non-black animals are registered as "Dun/Red"  
 unless Tested/Proven

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

## Ownership transfers are easy

- 1 Complete the Application for Transfer on the back of the Registration Certificate
- 2 Mail it (or a copy of it) to PDCA  
Or take a pic of the back with your phone and email to [PDCA NOW@gmail.com](mailto:PDCA NOW@gmail.com)
- 3 Include payment - \$20  
Or
- 4 Use the online Transfer Only Form and pay online  
[www.dexterstoday.com/easytransfer](http://www.dexterstoday.com/easytransfer)



PDCA  
P.O. Box 135  
Edwards, MS 39066



## Registry to Registry transfers are easy

- 1 Just mail a copy of ADCA or Legacy animal(s) registration certificate(s) to PDCA
- 2 Include payment - \$5 per animal  
Or
- 3 Use the online Registry to Registry Transfer Form and pay online  
[www.dexterstoday.com/registry-to-registry-transfer](http://www.dexterstoday.com/registry-to-registry-transfer)  
(Must be current member. Sorry, no edits or ownership changes on this type of transfer.)

## Genetic Testing

- What is genetic testing?
- What is genotyping?
- What things might you want to test and why?
- When is testing required?
- When is genetic testing unnecessary?
- PDCA does not require testing. Why?

Read about it at [www.dexterstoday.com/about-genetic-testing](http://www.dexterstoday.com/about-genetic-testing)

### Tattoo letters

2015 – C

2016 – D

2017 – E

2018 – F

## Genetic Testing Labs

**University of California-Davis**  
[www.vgl.ucdavis.edu](http://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu)

**Texas A&M University**  
[vetmed.tamu.edu/animalgenetics](http://vetmed.tamu.edu/animalgenetics)

### GeneSeek/Igenity

[http://genomics.neogen.com/pdf/igenity/ag088\\_igenityorderformbeef.pdf](http://genomics.neogen.com/pdf/igenity/ag088_igenityorderformbeef.pdf),  
[http://genomics.neogen.com/pdf/igenity/ag159\\_igenityorderformdairy.pdf](http://genomics.neogen.com/pdf/igenity/ag159_igenityorderformdairy.pdf)



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HERD SIRE INFORMATION,  
 GENETIC TESTING RESULTS

go to **WWW.GLENNLANDFARM.COM**

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 Wes & Jane Patton  
 6352 County road 27 Orland, CA 95963  
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**Singing Springs**  
 POLLED DEXTER CATTLE **Farm**

**HERD SIRE FOR SALE**



GLENN LAND MR BRUNO HOMOZYGOUS POLLED  
 PDCA # 207932 ADCA #035753

Andy Smith & Donna Semas  
 Elkton, OR (541)584-2550  
 singingsprings@rconnects.com

**Wabi Sabi**  
 FARM

LARRY HAGGARD  
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 LHD357@BELLSOUTH.NET

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Virinda Farm Tarbh

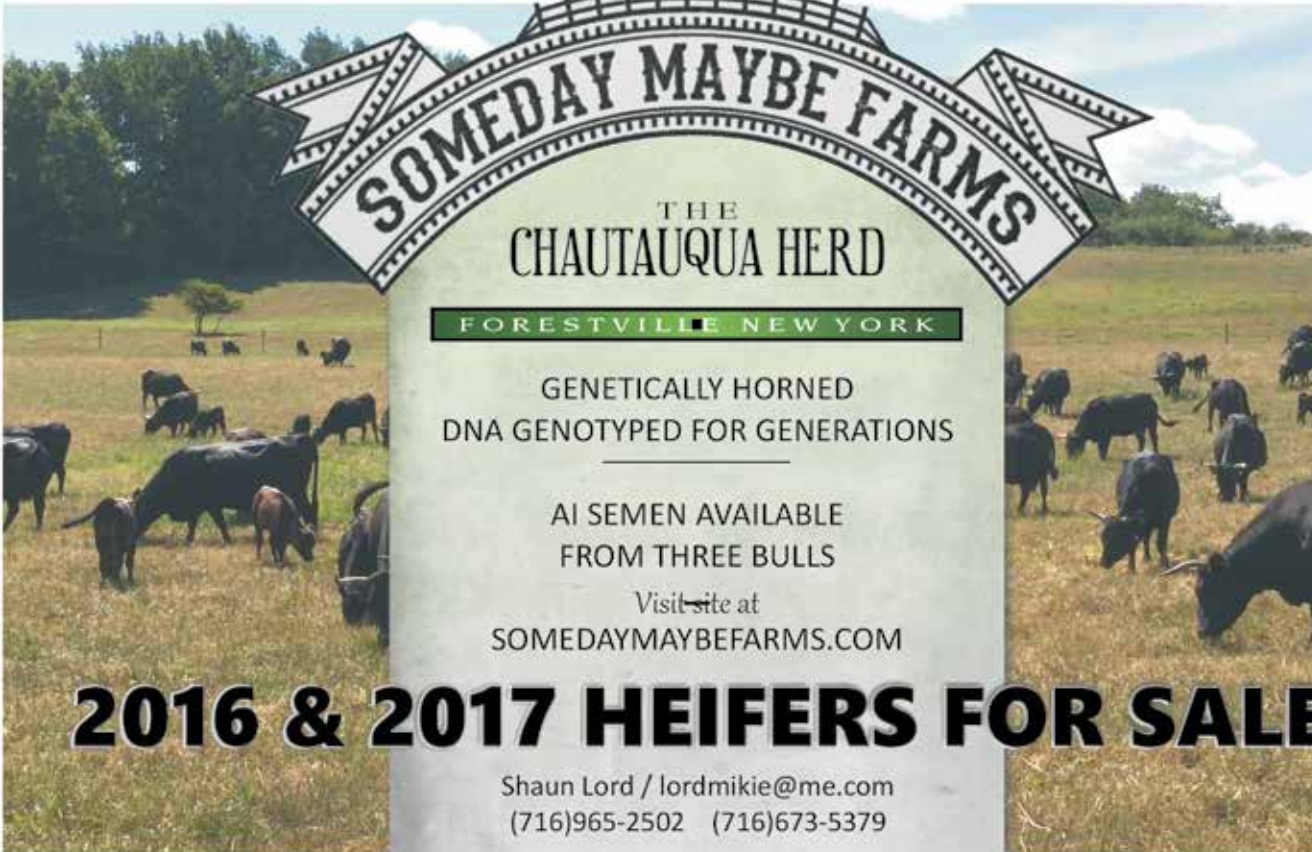
.....  
 TRADITIONAL BLACK A2/A2

PDCA 207153  
 ADCA 029752

Dunbar Farms Romeo

.....  
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 PDCA 300446  
 ADCA 032845





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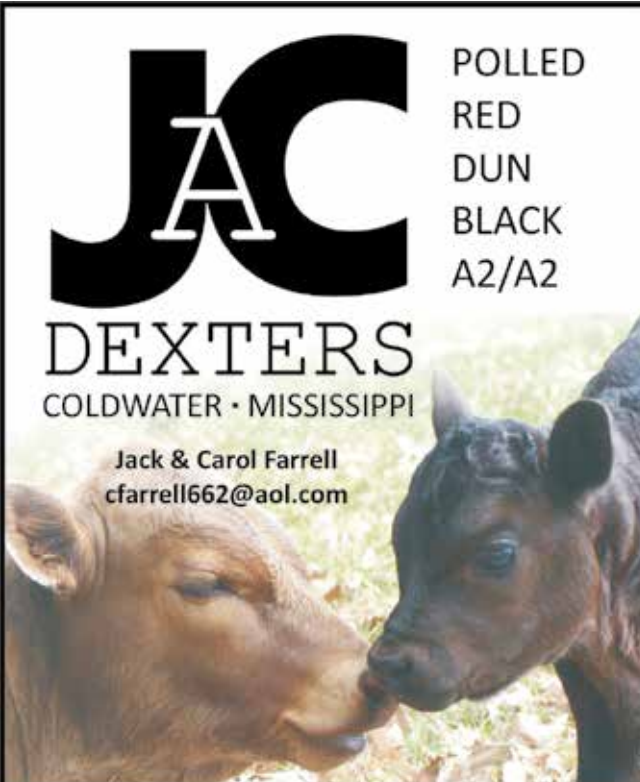
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RED  
DUN  
BLACK  
A2/A2

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A2/A2  
Non Chondro  
Non PHA  
Red carries Dun



Homoz. Polled  
A2/A2  
Non Chondro  
Non PHA  
Red Homoz. Dun

*Howie*

PDCA # 208762-C \$25 Per Straw



Homoz. Polled  
A2/A2  
Non Chondro  
Non PHA  
Dun carries Red

*Wow Factor*

PDCA # 208761-C \$25 Per Straw



Heteroz. Polled  
A2/A2  
Non Chondro  
Non PHA  
Red Homoz. Dun

*Valor*

PDCA # 26101-C \$25 Per Straw



Homoz. Polled  
A2/A2  
Chondro Carrier  
Non PHA  
Red Homoz. Dun

*Habanero*

PDCA # 300024-C \$25 Per Straw



Homoz. Polled  
A2/A2  
Non Chondro  
Non PHA  
Red carries Dun

*Dandy*

PDCA # 300030-C \$25 Per Straw



Homoz. Polled  
A2/A2  
Non Chondro  
Non PHA  
Carries Red & Dun

*Rebel*

PDCA # 300110-C \$25 Per Straw



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