



## BRISTOW BONSMARA NEWS LETTER 2010

Despite the difficult times some sectors have experienced in the last year, the cattle industry is bullish, there is a strong demand for beef and breeding stock and the Bonsmara machine is growing from strength to strength with growing numbers of breeders and cattle. Most of the country has had excellent rains and all augers well for us cattle farmers.

Here in the Northern part of our country the veld in most areas is in abundance & looking good. Our Bonsmara club has doubled its membership and the demand from the commercial sector is strong.

### New genetics

I recently acquired the Macdonald Bonsmara herd. This is a great privilege and I thank Angus and Ian for this opportunity. The Macdonald herd is one of the oldest Bonsmara herds in the country. Angus joined the Bonsmara Society in 1965 and in the next 45 years with his passion for cattle, shaped these cattle into the very fertile, productive, beautiful herd of cows that I am now privileged to make part of my herd.

### A bit of philosophy

As Stud farmers there is a danger of us losing sight of the goals and the bottom line of the commercial industry.

1. Females must be well adapted and give a calf each year with no assistance.
2. Weaners are sold R/Kg – more money from heavier weaners.
3. Selecting lower birth masses will ultimately lead to smaller cattle which could still have calving problems.
4. Allow nature to determine the size of your cattle. This can be achieved by putting maximum pressure on fertility in a natural unpampered environment and at the same time selecting for growth and production.
5. Beware of too much muscling – One does not want an over muscled female line.
6. Do not confuse muscling with beefiness.- A full hindquarter going deep into the hock with length from hip to pin.
7. Retain adaptation by keeping a strong % of Sanga genes in your herd.

## SALES

### OUR THREE SALES THIS YEAR ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. **NATAL** (Vryheid) Thur. 6<sup>th</sup> May @ 10:00  
VENUE: Mooihoek S P Olivier's farm.
2. **LIMPOPO** (Bandelierkop) Wed. 19 May @ 10:00 at Bandelierkop sale pens
3. **NORTH WEST** (Stella) Tues 25 May @ 10:00. at Stella sale pens.

### BRISTOW BONSMARA LIMPOPO SALE VENUE AND TIME

#### BANDELIERKOP SALE PENS

#### TIME: 10h00

The sale pens are situated practically on the N1 just South of Bandelierkop on the road to the Mara Research Station

### **ON OFFER**

30 BULLS

50 Bristow females

50 Erasmus females

### **“ CLOCK SALE ”**

The bulls as usual will be sold via my “Clock” system and the females in the usual conventional way. Mike Killassy who was at first a little doubtful of the clock system, now fully supports this unique method of selling cattle. We have refined the system to a point where it is now quicker selling 30 bulls via the clock than it would have taken the conventional way. Most buyers who have bought via the clock prefer the “clock.” Buyers can see what prices are being offered for each bull and can bid accordingly. Also ideal for buyers who have arranged to buy telephonically as they can be informed of the prices of their top choices.

### **BULLS**

A strong group of hardy bulls this year. I was persuaded to give a summer production lick this year, so with the good grass and the lick, the bulls are looking good.

They have been reared on virulent heartwater & gallsickness veldt. As usual the bulls will be examined and fertility tested by our vets and the older bulls will also be tested for Tricho. & Vibrio

## ADVANTAGES OF BUYING BULLS OFF THE VELDT

- Adapted bulls can be identified by their condition off the veldt.
- Strengths and weaknesses are easily spotted.
- The bulls adapt easily back on your farm.
- No feed related fertility problems.

## The bulls on sale come mostly out of the following sires:

**JRB01-135** – A very masculine well adapted early maturing bull with dark pigment and strong hooves. He is out of N190/H157 & D47 Lines.

**JRB01-75** – A very long bull with good capacity, a length to height ratio of 1: 25. He was one of the best bulls tested on the veldt test at Mara. I have used him extensively in my herd and he is currently being used in the Molopo herd. One of my top sires currently in my herd is a son of this bull and is producing some outstanding progeny.

**JRB03-25** – My top priced bull at last years sale, bought by Graham Mulders from Zambia. This Bull brings a stamp Masculinity, excellent skin and black pigment. A real bull for Africa.

## BULLS ON SALE

### **EXPANDING FURTHER ON SOME SALE BULLS:**

**LOT 1. – JRB04-08** my herd sire on sale this year. As can be seen from his picture on the back of the pamphlet he is a well balanced bull with strong back and good head. I am keeping back one of his sons to continue as a sire in the herd. His father was out of an IVY bull, which makes him quarter IVY and from his fertile dam's side he comes out of N190. (A great genetic combination) He has excellent well balanced EBVs with a wean direct of 8.8 ADG 118, FCR -133 – Has a lot to offer.

**LOT 2 – MEN05-216** A good looking bull with a lot of capacity. From a good Menne Dam and an Erasmus sire.

**LOT 3 – 06-28** Early maturing well muscled with a strong back. out of an excellent dam ICP 370 days

**LOT 4 – 06-66** Performance tested on the Veld Ph D at Mara where he did excellently, ADG of 113. There is plenty growth & milk here with Wean direct of 12.3 (4 x breed average) and wean Mat. 4.7 (4 X breed av.)

**LOT 7 – 06-180** an impressive grade bull great capacity out of a very fertile dam with lots of milk.

**LOT 12 – 07-09** A large later maturing bull with a lot of growth and excellent balanced EBVs. Out of the AI bull PER00-77.

**LOT 19 – 07-63** A typical good looking 03-25 son showing good skin, pigment and masculinity.

**LOT 21 – 07-71** One of my favorites on sale. Also out of 03-25. A masculine, well balanced bull. His dam is a great cow out of an IVY line.

**LOT 27 – 07-73** A good looking bull, early maturing with good muscling. Out of 01-75. One of the best grade bulls on sale.

## FEMALE OFFER –

There will be over 100 females for sale:

### **BRISTOW**

50 Cows and Heifers

### **PIETER ERASMUS & SEUNS**

50 Cows and heifers

All females will either be pregnant, have a calf at foot or both pregnant and have a calf (3 in 1)  
Cattle breeders don't part easily with their breeding stock  
This is a good opportunity to acquire some quality breeding stock.

The Erasmus herd is one of the largest Bonsmara herds here in the bushveld. There are good females here and an opportunity not to be missed.

## ACCOMODATION

Lalapanzi: 015-516 5455 or 0824941155

Adams Apple 015- 516 3304

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- ❖ THE THREE SALES WILL BE HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE BONSMARA SOCIETY.
- ❖ CATALOGUES ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST OR ON THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES.  
[www.vliessentraalbosveld.co.a](http://www.vliessentraalbosveld.co.a)  
[www.bonsmara.co.za](http://www.bonsmara.co.za)
- ❖ LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE SALES.

**GAVIN BRISTOW : 015-516 2259 : 083 264 3890**

**gbristow@xnets.co.za**

**Francois Uijs 083 6276 835 (Vleissentraal)**

**Mike Kilassie 082 3788 112 (Auctioneer)**

**Elardus Erasmus: 082 450 9807 (Guest Seller)**

### NATAL:

**Danie Olivier : 083 2299 195**

**S.P. Olivier : 083 6806 326**

**Neels Upton : 082 8719 297 (Vleissentraal)**

### MOLOPO:

**Philip Poggenpoel : 082 9444 561**

**Wouter Mentz : 082 9440 217**

**(Noordkaap - Lewendehawe)**