

LIMOUSIN

Carcase, Yield, Efficiency.

ON A ROLL!

by Carole Burden

2009 - *What a year!* Time and time again Limousin and Limousin-cross carcasses were judged to have the most outstanding attributes at all weights in all feeding regimes. Limousin has to be the way forward for Australia to produce cost-effective quality beef as is recognised in Europe. Indonesia and Russia are buying up Australian bulls and heifers after realising the breed's enormous potential.



Not to be out done Limousin grain-fed purebred steers achieved what was thought to be the impossible by winning the **Grand Slam** of all five trophies for **Group of Three Steers on Hoof and Hook** at Royal Shows in Australian Capital cities. Other grain-fed carcass wins this year are just too numerous to list here.

Limousin is proud to be associated with high yield and healthy tender prime cuts rather than with ground beef and unhealthy junk food.

Perceived temperament problems have now been addressed by strategic culling and use of Breedplan docility EBVs over many years. Limousin bulls are now as quiet as or quieter than other breeds.

In its main role as a terminal sire Limousin proved itself again in the 2009 **Southern Grassfed Carcass Classic** by winning back to back **Grand Champion Carcass** and also the **Reserve Champion Carcass** from 210 SA and Victorian entries. Over the two years the Classic has run, Limousin-sired cattle have either won or been placed in all 3 weight classes plus 1st in the prestigious Pen of Three Heavy Weight Steers in 2008. This no fuss, straight-from-the-paddock competition, under the ABCAS appraisal system (which includes MSA eating quality) has to be the most relevant for all graziers to benchmark their cattle.

Whilst British Breed stud breeders try desperately to introduce more muscle into their seed stock Limousins have it ready made for commercial graziers to produce B-muscle progeny in one easy cross. If you should need any more convincing to buy a Limousin bull then something memorable a butcher said to me recently and which he impresses on his suppliers is "If you have a dairy you would use the cows which produce the most milk so if you have a beef enterprise why on earth wouldn't you use the bull which produces the most **meat!**"

Remember, the closest thing to a free lunch (definitely not a burger) is to take advantage of using a Limousin Bull in a crossbreeding programme – case proved.



Southern Grassfed Carcass Classic (650kg at 16 months)



O'Connor Team - Royal Adelaide Show 2009

See www.salimousin.com.au or contact the Secretary SA Limousin Breeders (08) 8538 7190 for more