

**NZ MINIATURE HEREFORD
BREEDERS' GROUP
NEWSLETTER**



Summer 2013-2014



Time to fly the flag again – meet in Ashburton, April 12/13 for the 2014 AGM of the NZMHBG

With the great turn-out at the last AGM we are now looking forward to a similar happening but this time in the South Island. The venue is the Hotel Ashburton and Lisa Olier (Rosaville Miniature Herefords) and Carole Steele (Ruzak Park Miniature Herefords) have been organising this. It is to be held during the weekend of April 12/13. The hotel offers both accommodation and rooms for the function. Already a pleasing number in both Islands have indicated their interest and, as they say, the more the merrier! If you are thinking of attending it might pay to contact Lisa and Carole now as some accommodation bookings have already been made at the hotel. Google Hotel Ashburton and look at the lovely photos of this place. There should be autumn colours when we get down there, too. We are hoping to have some interesting speakers to add variety to the programme. If anyone is considering putting in a remit or would like some specific topics to be discussed at the AGM start thinking about them now as the official notices will be coming out soon. As soon as the itinerary for the weekend is completed detailed flyers will be sent out to all NZMHBG members.

WORLD CHAMPION HEREFORDS

This year we were invited to take part in the first ever World Champion and Miss World Champion Hereford competition in a section specifically for Miniature Herefords. There were 30 entries from 4 different countries – New Zealand, Australia, USA and Scotland. Sarah Wright won the Bronze Award for World Champion Hereford with Kracka Gonzales and Lisa Olier the Bronze Award for Miss World Champion Hereford with Riverview Amber.



Kracka Gonzales (New Zealand)



Riverview Amber (New Zealand)

FOR SALE

Riverlets Patrick (by Ensedemash Sheriff Dandy out of Grovenorth Patsy). Born 22/10/10. Halter trained and proven sire. FS 0. \$1800.00 +GST negotiable. Contact Janet Poole (09) 439 2420 or riverlets@gmail.com

Ruzak Park Dynamite (by Kruger Park Max out of Viewbank Millie). Born 30/10/09. Proven sire. Asking price \$1100.00. Contact Paul Arnold (03) 434 1184 or paul.arnold@xtra.co.nz



Riverlets Patrick and regular Hereford mate.



Ruzak Park Dynamite (Bomber)

Grovenorth St Nick (by KNF General Stan Watie out of Esprit Alice). Born 11/12/10. Has cows in-calf to him now. Unofficially FS 0/1. \$1500.00 +GST. At present in South Island. Contact Carole Steele (03) 431 3737 or csteele@ruzak.co.nz



Grovenorth St Nick

MARVELLOUS MINIS

Until now, Esprit Alice and Cottle Tinkerbelle were neck and neck with still breeding and nine calves each. Very recently, Tinkerbelle took the lead with her 10th calf. She will be 14 years old this year and is still in great form. She is now owned by Graham and Valerie Cammell of Elshaddai Miniature Herefords at Papakura, South Auckland. Esprit Alice is owned by Alistair Hargrove of Keri Keri and is likely to calve again next season.



Cottle Tinkerbelle with calf number ten



Her son, Elshaddai Farleyboo with full tummy.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

An entirely unexpected tragedy in the form of an overdose of copper by an overseas breeder resulted in the loss of a number of prized Miniature Hereford heifers. It was supposed to be a routine supplement but somehow the copper levels had changed in the pasture which affected what the animals were able to absorb safely. This breeder has urged others to check first whether or not any additives are required before supplying them. The same goes, particularly in New Zealand, for selenium. Not all parts of the country are selenium deficient and if using supplements check their contents first as it is very easy to overdose.

TECHNICAL TIPS

Checking for Inbreeding Percentages

With breeders keen to have their breeding cows serviced by a compatible bull the new service available on the NZHA website is great and simple to use. All you need is the registration number of your cow and that of a bull you are thinking of using. Go onto the NZHA website and click on **Mating Predictor** which is on the red line. A system will come up where you enter the registrations of the sire and dam then hit **Search**. The resulting details will have a section at the bottom on the left hand side which shows the **Inbreeding Coefficient Percentage**. The ideal percentages are below 20% as that means any relationship between the two animals is more distant. Looking at this simplified example the first combination is not closely related while the second combination is son and mother:

Good combination			
Name			
Sire: Grovenorth St Nick 1645100016			
Dam: Riverlets Sparkler 1735090001			
Inbreeding Coefficient: 10%			
Too close relationship			
Name:			
Sire: Riverlets Patrick 1735100004			
Dam: Grovenorth Patsy 1645080005			
Inbreeding Coefficient: 39%			

See you in Ashburton if you are going.

Janet.

