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2006
AMGA



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Our Cover

A rugged, lean, young Murray Grey bull shows the length of side, depth of muscling and easy stride that make Murray Greys a powerhouse in the breeding pasture.

This masculine sire typifies the quality of the cattle that were exhibited to attendees of the World Congress tour in West Australia in October of 2005.

Thanks to Annette Pulliam for letting us use this photo.

We are always looking for good photos of Murray Grey cattle. We invite all members to send pictures!

How to reach us -

American Murray Grey Association

**P.O. Box 60748
Reno, NV 89506
Phone: 775 - 972 - 7526**

**Email: AMGAOffice@murraygreybeefcattle.com
<http://www.murraygreybeefcattle.com>**

Welcome our "newest" members!



Hello everybody,

We just wanted you to know that our twins were born on Tuesday, March 14. Davlynn Hannah Holloway was born at 3:32 PM and weighed 4 lbs. 14 oz. Dillon Justin Holloway was born at 3:37 PM and weighed 6 lbs. 4oz. The labor was amazingly easy and went very well. MaryAnn says it was the easiest labor so far. It only took about 15 minutes from start to finish.

The babies are both doing well. Dillon had some trouble breathing at first and had to be in the NICU, but by that night was doing fine. They were able to come home with us on Thursday. Our family has been put on quarantine for about 6 weeks, but that is well worth it so that the babies can be home with us.

Kaylie and Sydney are loving being big sisters. They are being good helpers, too. We are still trying to get Sydney to remember their names, she calls Dillon the blue baby and Davlynn the pink baby. She just loves being a big sister.

We have enclosed a picture of Kaylie holding Dillon and Sydney holding Davlynn. Thanks to all of you for your support and concern! We are very excited that the babies are finally here!

Justin and MaryAnn Holloway
H Diamond Cattle Co.
Idaho Falls, ID

The Way I See It

By: John Gerow, Executive Director

What makes a good cattle show? I am sure that we all have different ideas about the answer to that question – centering, more or less, on how well “our” animals do in the ring. From my perspective, there are several other things that make a Murray Grey show a “good show”. Let me share these with you.

The three major things that are needed to make a good Murray Grey show are: for every animal exhibited to be a good ambassador for the breed, when cattle are sold as a result of being on display, and for the bonds of commonality of purpose, shared goals and friendships to be strengthened by the time exhibitors spend together. By these three criteria, the Murray Grey show at the Ohio Beef Expo in March was a resounding success.

It was absolutely exciting for me, to see the sound, functional, structurally correct cattle that the exhibitors brought to Columbus. Each of the animals was a good representative of the breed, even though there were different types of cattle presented. Not a single exhibitor had to apologize for any of the animals on display. It was electrifying to watch the judge place each class and to hear her say that third and fourth place animals were simply “too good to stand third and fourth”. It was great good fun to be sitting in the stands and to hear people from outside our breed commenting on how good all of the animals in each class were.

A show is successful when a significant number of animals change hands during the exhibition. Exhibitors sold several animals during the Expo, establishing a new herd in Eastern Kentucky, reactivating a dormant herd and moving genetics into several existing AMGA herds. When breeders are impressed enough with the cattle against which they are competing to purchase those cattle, then we are seeing the right kind of cattle on display.

But maybe most importantly from my perspective, a most successful show is one where our members work, talk, play and laugh together and leave the show with very positive feelings toward other exhibitors. This is not always easy – but it may be becoming a hallmark of Murray Grey

shows, if the last year is any indication of direction. New exhibitors, exhibitors returning after a several year hiatus and old stalwarts all worked together to present our breed in the best possible light to cattlemen attending the Expo. There was an exciting level of camaraderie throughout the entire weekend that bodes well for the new Eastern Murray Grey Association.

The way I see it, all of the exhibitors at the Ohio Beef Expo deserve a hearty “Well Done!” and the Murray Grey breed came out the overall winner at this particular show. Let’s all work together, to make sure that every Murray Grey show during 2006 is every bit as successful as was the Ohio Beef Expo show.

The “Grey Tide” is rising in the East!



California Junior Scores Big with MG X Steer

Francesca Burratto of the Rockin’ B Ranch, Santa Rosa, California gave Northern California cattle producers a good look at how Murray Greys can improve native cattle. The AMGA Junior stood 5th in the Sonoma County bred class and took 6th place in the 100 head carcass competition.

Francesca’s steer was out of a Rockin’ B Hereford cow and was sired by Eagles Run Bravo 95J, out of Kris & Diana Anderson’s Eagles Run Ranch of Livermore, CA. Francesca’s MG X steer just made the live weight cut of 1250 pounds, but graded Choice, with an impressive REA. As a counter point, her Hereford steer which took Reserve Grand Champion, only graded Select and had an over abundance of external fat.

AMGA congratulates Francesca on her great 2005 outing!

Juniors are the future of our breed and AGMA would like to highlight all of our Juniors and their Murray Grey accomplishments. Please send us photos and information on YOUR junior’s Murray Grey projects.

Notes from the National Office

Dues are overdue! For those of you who have not yet renewed your AMGA dues, we have included a membership application with this issue of the Murray Grey News. Don't let this be the last issue that you receive. Annual dues are \$50. Junior dues are \$10 per year.

ET calves born in calendar year 2006 and beyond will need to have parent verification supplied at application for registration. Call or email if you have questions.

AI Sires must have DNA on file with the Association before calves resulting from AI can be registered. After July 1, 2006 we will not be able to register AI calves unless there is DNA for the sire on file. (Blood or DNA identification is required for bulls drawn before January 1, 1999.) If you are buying or selling semen, please make sure that the proper documentation is on file. Bulls drawn after January 1, 1999 must have a negative a-mannosidosis test result on file if the semen is sold outside the herd of origin.

Group BreedPlan data will be downloaded later on in June. If you have not submitted all of your data, please do so ASAP. You want the most up to date information on your Herd EPD reports.

Group BreedPlan EPDs will be calculated as EPDs in pounds, rather than as EBVs in kilos as done previously. You will notice a slight increase in the EPD values on your Herd Reports. Converting from EBVs in kilos to EPDs in pounds will result in a 10% increase in reported values. All animals included in the US evaluation will be reported as EPDs in pounds regardless of country of origin.

National Show entries need to be into AMGA by October 15, 2006. Contact AMGA for entry forms.

Hotel, Show & Meeting Information for the AMGA National in Louisville will be posted on the "Breaking News" page of the AMGA web site as soon as it becomes available.

We need **Sponsors for the AMGA National Show** in Louisville in November. We urge all AMGA members to try to get the merchants that you support to support our National Show. Our goal is to raise enough money each year to make exhibiting at our National show worthwhile

for members who have to travel great distances. We have included a fundraising letter for you to use.

Junior Ladies – if you are interested in being the AMGA Queen, please let Gennie @ AMGA know as soon as possible. We need a Queen to represent the Association at our National Show tentatively planned for Louisville, KY in November.

Show Dates Wanted - We want to have as many Murray Grey shows as possible listed on the web site. Please let us know what fairs and shows you will be attending this summer. We will post show results fair all MG shows where 2 or more herds compete on the web site.



Ginger Natolis,
Monarch Oak Farm
meets a native
Aussie. Is it a
kangaroo or a
wallaby?

Australian Semen For Sale!



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Michaelong Captain Apache 573

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For More Information Contact:

Harold Grosskop
2510 RD #8 North
Huntley, MT 59037
Phone: 406-967-2140

Ohio Beef Expo Show Results

Six AMGA members from Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio presented 28 head of top quality Murray Grey cattle for Corrine Kephart to analyze in the Eastern Murray Grey Association's inaugural show at the 2006 Ohio Beef Expo in Columbus, OH on March 17, 2006. The quality of the animals ran deep in the classes, with the Judge continually apologizing for having to place such good animals in third and fourth place. From the look of the cattle presented at the OBE, the "Grey Tide" is definitely on the rise in the East! Congratulations to all exhibitors!

Junior Champion Female	Monarch Oak Kirsten	Monarch Oak Farm, Marietta, OH
Res. Jr. Champion Female	Monarch Oak Bethanie	Monarch Oak Farm, Marietta, OH
Senior Champion Female	CF Licorice	RebSuAnn Cattle, Shelbyville, KY
Grand Champion Female	CF Licorice	RebSuAnn Cattle, Shelbyville, KY
Res. Gr. Champion Female	Monarch Oak Kristen	Monarch Oak Farm, Marietta, OH
Junior Champion Bull	RSA Mr Royal Prize 54R	RebSuAnn Cattle, Shelbyville, KY
Res. Jr. Champion Bull	RSA Mr Raliegh 73R	RebSuAnn Cattle, Shelbyville, KY
Senior Champion Bull	JVN Vernon	RebSuAnn Cattle, Shelbyville, KY
Res. Sr. Champion Bull	ATI Trojan 369	OSU/ATI, Wooster, OH
Grand Champion Bull	JVN Vernon	RebSuAnn Cattle, Shelbyville, KY
Res. Grand Champion Bull	ATI Trojan 369	OSU/ATI, Wooster, OH
Get of Sire	Monarch Oak Extra	RebSuAnn Cattle, Shelbyville, KY



Judge Kephart studies Senior heifers at the Ohio Beef Expo Murray Grey show

AI, ET & Import Requirements

With demand for Murray Grey cattle outstripping the availability of animals for sale, there is growing interest among AMGA members to flush embryos for ET calves and to draw semen for AI sale. The bylaws of the Association set forth guidelines for members to follow when utilizing genetic technology in their breeding and marketing programs. Protect yourself and your customers by making sure you meet all of the requirements before selling semen or frozen embryos.

For AI Sires –

DNA identification must be on file with the Association on all bulls drawn for AI before calves resulting from AI can be registered. Blood or DNA is required for bulls drawn prior to January 1, 1999. All bulls from whom semen is drawn for sale outside the herd of origin must have a negative a-mannosidosis test result on file with the Association before calves can be registered.

Kansas State University is the only lab in the United States that does a-manno testing. Contact KSU for details.

Comparative Hematology
Kansas State Vet. Med. Center, Mosier Hall
1800 Denison Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66506-5605
Phone/FAX (785) 532-4424 /532-3996

For ET Donor Cows –

DNA identification is required on any female being flushed for embryos. This DNA report must be on file at the Association before calves resulting from the ET can be registered. Members must provide the Association with a Certificate of Recovery for each embryo flush. Members must also provide the Association with a Certificate of Transfer for every embryo transferred. Certificate of Recovery/Embryo Transfer is in your breeder's guide or available upon request. There is a \$5.00 fee for recording each embryo flush.

When a member sells a frozen embryo, the transfer of ownership of the embryo must be recorded with the Association. The Transfer of Ownership form is in the breeder's guide or available upon request. There is a \$7.00 fee to transfer ownership of an embryo.

Registering ET Calves –

Every ET calf born during or after 2006 must have parent verification supplied to the Association with registration application. Breeder must have a copy of both sire and dam's DNA to submit with calf's DNA for parent verification. (AMGA will provide copies upon request.)

Importing Semen or Embryos

Semen and embryos imported into the US must have DNA on file with the Association. Even though an Australian bull may be listed as "free by inheritance", that bull must still have a negative a-mannosidosis test if drawn after January 1, 1999. It is the responsibility of the importer to provide the Association with the necessary documentation.

AI sires or ET donors registered outside of the United States must be transferred into the AMGA herdbook before calves resulting from either AI or ET can be registered with AMGA. It is the responsibility of the party importing the semen or embryos to transfer the sire or donor dam into the AMGA registry. There is an application for registration of imported animal in your breeder's guide or available by request.

DNA can be done at Igenity or Bovigen, contact information on previous page. UC Davis also does DNA as does Stormont Laboratory in Woodland, CA. Contact AMGA for more information.

University of California
Veterinary Genetics Lab
Cattle DNA Testing
One Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616-8744
530-752-2211

Stormont Laboratories, Inc
1237 E. Beamer Street
Woodland, CA 95776
530-661-3078

2006
American Murray Grey
National Show & Meetings



North American
International Livestock
Exposition
Louisville, KY
November 15 - 17, 2006

Schedule of Events

Entries Due to AMGA: Oct. 15

Cattle Arrive - Noon: 3PM Wed Nov. 15

Board Meeting: 6PM Wed Nov. 15
Location TBA

AMGA National Show: 9AM Thurs Nov. 16

AMGA Lunch Social: Noon Thurs Nov 16
Awards Presentation at the Social

AMGA Members Meeting: 4PM Thurs Nov 16

EMGA Meeting: 8AM Fri Nov 17

Heifer Raffle Drawing: Time TBA

Cattle & tack must be out of the building
by 3PM Friday Nov 17

*Watch the "Breaking News" page of the
AMGA web site for more information on the
National Show & Meetings as it becomes
available.*

*Gennie Gerow is looking for group rates at
hotels near the Exposition Grounds in
Louisville. We will post information on the
"Breaking News" page of the web site.*

Take A Chance

on winning a registered
Murray Grey heifer!

Tickets available from any member
of the AMGA Board of Directors
or from the AMGA Office.

\$1.00/ticket or 12 tickets for \$10!

Drawing will take place at the
AMGA National Show & Meetings
November 15 - 17
at the NAILE
Louisville, KY

Winner can choose either the
heifer or resale value up to \$600!

**Winner does not have to
be present to win!!**

AMGA members who wish to sell
tickets are welcome to contact
AMGA for tickets & information.

Support the
AMGA National Show!

Win a registered heifer!

Take a chance!

See Page 8 for more information!

TENDERNESS & MARBLING GENETIC TESTING OPTIONS

We have promoted the carcass quality of Murray Grey cattle for the past 35 years, more or less on anecdotal evidence. The rapidly expanding science of genetics is giving Murray Grey breeders new tools to use to promote, and select carcass quality. These new tools come at a time when our breed is rapidly expanding into herds whose owners are direct-marketing finished beef products. Genetic testing for marbling and tenderness will be critical to meeting the demands of these direct marketing entrepreneurs.

Murray Grey breeders should be serious about using genetic identification as part of a complete management, selection and marketing system which should also include ultra-sound testing and carcass EPDs. Hard information is going to be crucial if our breed is to take its place as a serious player in the beef industry in the future. Breeders that have carcass genetic identification and use it to select genetics will be in the best position to sell breeding stock in the years to come.

There are two companies currently offering genetic testing for marbling and tenderness in the United States. Bovigen, LLC in Harahan, LA and Ingenity (formerly Frontier Genetics) in Lincoln, NE are the companies that offer the genetic testing. Both offer tenderness and marbling gene identification. Bovigen offers both marbling and tenderness testing for \$65. Ingenity is in the process of updating their offering and sources suggest that the tenderness and marbling package will be about \$50.

Both companies offer genetic profile such as AI bulls and ET donor cows require for \$25.

The American Murray Grey Association is interested in developing a working relationship with one of these companies in an effort to get lower costs for members and also to develop a genetic database of Murray Grey sires. If you are currently doing any carcass genetic testing, or are interested in doing some, please let us know.

Contact Information

Bovigen, LLC

250 Plauche St

Harahan, LA 70123

Phone Sales: 877-233-3362

Web Site - <http://www.bovigen.com>

Ingenity USA -

Mail correspondence only to:

IGENITY Customer Care

Office 519B

3239 Satellite Blvd

Duluth GA, 30096-4640

Jim Gibb, Ph.D

1002 Turnberry Circle

Louisville, CO 80027

Phone: 303-664-9494

Kevin DeHaan, Ph.D

6185 County Road 306

Taylor, MO 63471

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Web Site: <http://us.igenity.com/>



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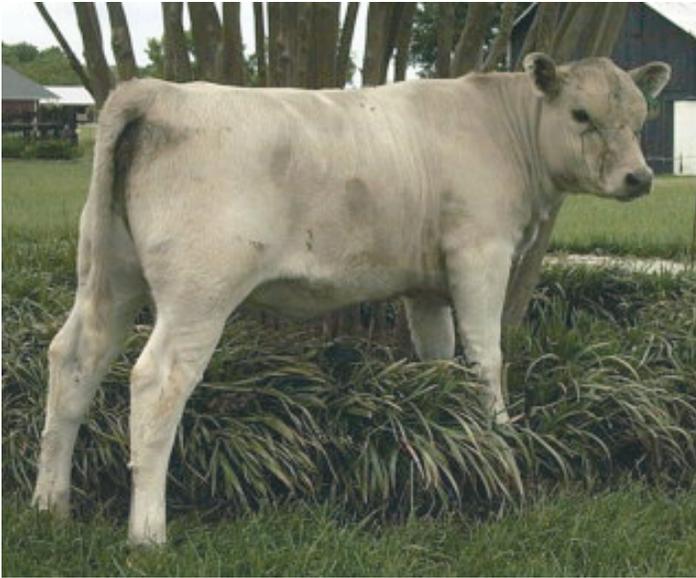
54289 Arago-Fishtrap Road

Myrtle Point, OR 97458

541 - 396 - 6191

cmax922@peoplepc.com

2006 AMGA Raffle Heifer!



RSA Ms V's Showpiece
DOB 02/01/2006

Sire: JVN Vernon

2003 National Grand Champion Bull
Trait Leader Milk & Total Maternal
First son of Monarch Oak Extra

Based on December 2005 Murray Grey								
	BW	WW	YW	Milk	Total Mat	Scrotal	CE	Mat CE
EPD	+3.2	+15	+21	+7	+15	+0.3	-2.5	-1.9
ACC(%)	78	68	59	36	-	22	44	31
Average EPDs for all Calves born in 2004								
EPD	+2.3	+14	+22	+3	-	-	-	-

Dam: RSA Ms Kathy

By PR Beechnut - a Willowdale Westwind 3S son
Out of a solid cow family going back to
Michaelong Cap't Apache &
Michaelong Grasshopper

Based on December 2005 Murray Grey								
	BW	WW	YW	Milk	Total Mat	Scrotal	CE	Mat CE
EPD	+4.4	+17	+21	+7	+16	-0.2	-4	-3.1
ACC(%)	84	78	72	74	-	21	50	43
Average EPDs for all Calves born in 2004								
EPD	+2.3	+14	+22	+3	-	-	-	-

This beautiful spring 2006 drop calf writes an incredible pedigree that builds on bloodlines reaching back into the founding years of the breed with the progeny of Wee-Gun Tjandamarra, one of the breed's leading performance sires. RSA Ms V's Showpiece will be a great addition to any Murray Grey herd.

Just a buck a chance!!

A Judge's Perspective

Having just returned home from evaluating the Murray Grey cattle at the 2006 Ohio Beef Expo, I want to congratulate the exhibitors and breeders on an outstanding show. While the classes were not large, the quality of the cattle ran deep.

I enjoyed sorting the cattle for the breeders. The atmosphere was pleasant and laid back, and the cattle were well presented. I compliment the breeders for maintaining the integrity of the breed and continuing to produce cattle that are moderate in frame size and easy-fleshing.

I believe Murray Grey cattle to be extremely useful in terms of economics and production. Their moderate size, feed/forage conversion ability, internal volume and structural soundness make Murray Greys a valuable crossbreeding tool, as well as a sound choice for purebred breeders. I am impressed, too with the breed's ability to produce a high quality carcass with minimal inputs.

I would caution breeders of show cattle to be wary of getting their heifers too fleshy. While it seems that judges, and buyers for that matter, almost always prefer heavier conditioned cattle, this often compromises the future productivity of females. There is a happy medium, where breeders can showcase the easy-fleshing ability of Murray Grey cattle without putting their heifers' reproductive usefulness in jeopardy.

I believe with the continuing demand for high quality, fresh, naturally produced beef, the Murray Grey breed has a promising future. I challenge you as breeders to create opportunities for Murray Grey cattle to gain market share and to continue to grow in numbers and popularity. Find and create niche markets that will emphasize all the positive traits that your cattle have to offer. This will provide you with premiums for your cattle and your beef.

Congratulations to the breeders of Murray Grey cattle for continuing to breed exceptional, high quality, useful cattle.

Corinne Kephart
Pleasureville, KY

Editor's Note: Corinne is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, BS in Animal Science. She has worked for several large commercial herds as a nutritionist & is currently working for a KY feed company. Corinne has coached the Shelby Co (KY) 4-H livestock judging team for 13 years, producing many state winners. We appreciate Corinne sharing her thoughts with us.

**Powerful Performance
in
Pretty Packages**



Monarch Oak Kirsten

Reserve Grand Champion Female 2006 Ohio Beef Expo
Gambler X Pericles & Tjandamarra



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email: tlhelfter@aol.com

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Email: hamurraygreys@proaxis.com

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