



2009 Sale Results

New and return clients showed increased confidence in the Wallawong breeding program resulting in total clearance of bulls at the Wallawong Murray Grey Sale at 'Derwent Park' Mullaley last Thursday 16 July. Impressive weights and eye muscle areas combined with positive calving ease appealed to both stud and commercial breeders from Queensland, Victoria and throughout NSW.

17 of 17 bulls sold to a top of \$6500 and average of \$3700, reflecting the solid competition for lots throughout the sale. 10 of 13 stud heifers were also sold to a top of \$2750 and an average of \$1155.

The \$6500 top priced bull was Lot 2 Wallawong Riddler, an 845kg son of Lindsay Starbright S117. He combined excellent structural correctness with physical muscularity and calving ease EBV in the top 15%. Purchased for stud duties by Craig and Jacinta Grant of Kelso Murray Greys, Coleraine, Victoria, Riddler had an EMA EBV in the top 1% of the breed and growth traits in the top 30%. His raw EMA scan was 122 cm² with fat scans of 12mm and 9 mm on rump and rib.

The \$4750 second top priced bull was Lot 6 Wallawong Rainman, possibly the best credentialed genetic calving ease, high growth bull Wallawong has offered for sale. By Banksia Ridge Zorro out of their best Starbright female, 830kg Rainman was in the top 5% for calving ease with growth traits in the top 15% and an EMA EBV in the top 5%. His raw EMA scan was 120 cm² with fat scans of 8 mm and 6 mm on rump and rib. Return Wallawong client and commercial breeder Phillip Rose of Armidale purchased the bull to go over Murray Grey and Shorthorn cross bred cows to produce easy care progeny for the domestic market.

Two bulls made \$4250, Lot 10 Wallawong Rumble at 840kg EMA 121cm² and Lot 17 Wallawong Romantic 750kg EMA 114cm². Both bulls were sired by the breed's leading eye muscle sire Lindsay Starbright S117 that was purchased by the Wallawong in 2005. A further four sons of Starbright S117 each made \$4000.

"The Starbright bulls again showed their popularity with buyers due to their performance, shape and muscularity" Wallawong stud principal Lachlan James said. "Repeat buyers are very impressed by the calves and we have never passed in a Starbright bull" Mr James added.

In a testament to the Wallawong breeding program and customer service, 60% of bulls went to repeat buyers. Volume buyer and return client Jack Meaney of Collarenabri purchased three grey bulls to average \$3500 to use in a cross breeding situation over his Hereford heifers. He has been using Wallawong bulls for several years.

The stud heifers were purchased by two volume buyers seeking foundation females for their respective new studs. The top priced and feature PTIC heifer was Lot 19 Wallawong Miss Impressive 25 that sold for \$2750 to Scott and Amanda Antcliff of Limpinwood. Sired by Lindsay Starbright S117 and joined to Banksia Ridge Zorro, the heifer also combined below average birth weight with positive calving ease and above average fleshing across the topline and hindquarter. Mr Antcliff selected five other unjoined yearling heifers from high performance Wallawong female families for a total average of \$1258.

Allan and Kate Waldron purchased the second top price heifer Lot 25 Wallawong Gale 8th for \$1600 along with three other unjoined females for his breeding operation located at Mendooran. Mr Waldron also selected a bull Lot 12 Wallawong Rufus 775kg EMA 116cm² to improve the carcasses he is producing for his butcher shop, Eastern Road Quality Meats, at Turrumurra and to convert his cross bred herd to pure Murray Greys.