

LIVESTOCK

Summit Gelbvieh tops at \$14,000

By TRAVIS KING

THE inaugural Summit Gelbvieh stud on-property sale was a resounding success with a top price of \$14,000 and only one bull out of 51 offered not selling.

Summit principals, the Pugh family, and buyers were all a little unsure of what to expect from the sale, with it marking the first time a significant number of Gelbvieh composite cattle were auctioned in WA.

A line-up of 16 pure Gelbviehs was warmly appreciated by the crowd, with the quality of the bulls an indication they would find good demand.

And that was certainly the case with a 100pc clearance of all the Gelbvieh bulls for a \$5281 average and a \$14,000 top price.

When it came to the offering of Red Gelbvieh composites, Grey Gelbvieh composites and Black Gelbvieh composites, it was a case of how prospective buyers would accept the concept.

Summit principal John Pugh said he was confident of the composite breeding performance, having extensively benchmarked it both in the Summit commercial herd of 4000 breeders, and against other breeds in the family's 10,000 head feedlot at Three Springs.

Acceptance, however, was never a problem with 14 Red composite bulls offered and sold for a \$4780 average and \$8000 top price, 15 Grey composites offered and sold to a top of \$5750 and a \$4050 average and six Black composites offered with five sold to a top of \$3500 and a \$2900 average.



□ With the \$14,000 top price Gelbvieh bull sold at Summit stud's inaugural bull sale last week are Clare Pugh (left), Summit, buyer Phil Tomlinson, Albany, Landmark Albany southern regional manager Bob Pumphrey, Summit principals John and Kim Pugh, Alexandra and Ed Riggall, Summit, and Harriet Pugh, Summit.

All up the 50 bulls sold under the hammer for a gross of \$226,750 and a \$4535 average.

Landmark Albany southern regional manager Bob Pumphrey said the sale was outstanding.

"There were quality bulls right throughout the catalogue and buyers came from all over the state," Mr Pumphrey said.

"It was a pleasing sale overall with a good average price, a near total clearance and it was well supported by the Landmark network."

The top price bull was catalogued as lot four and was a truly awesome representative of the Gelbvieh breed. With a deep coat colour, fine skin and excellent muscling, Summit Huck Finn would have been

well suited to any number of breeding programs.

His eye muscle area (EMA), scanned on February 27, 2009, was an incredible 151cm², and was described by Landmark auctioneer John Wirth as the biggest he had ever seen.

As a yearling Finn's EMA had measured 105cm² - a good sign of the future potential of the bull.

The fully polled bull had attracted much pre-sale interest on the show circuit, but it was two commercial breeders who fought it out to take him home. In the end Phil Tomlinson, Albany, won the contest, beating off the Tester family, Boyup Brook.

Mr Tomlinson said he had never used a Gelbvieh bull before, but after selling a large commercial cattle and cropping operation at Munglinup, and downsizing to a smaller holding at Albany he was keen to trial a different breed over his Angus cow herd.

"This bull's progeny will be compared to progeny by the top

price Blonde d'Aquitaine bull we bought at the recent Supreme bull sale," he said.

"I am really chasing muscle to use in a crossbreeding program and it will be interesting to see how this bloke's calves turn out."

Finn was a late April-drop calf, sired by Ebony Lodge Freedom Fighter X24 and out of Summit Berry Z2. He had a P8 fat measurement of 2mm, a rib fat of 2mm, an IMF of 2.4 and weighed in at 896kg.

The Pugh family had collected semen from him for use in their stud and the bull was sold on a three-quarter share and possession to the buyer basis.

Second top price in the Gelbvieh section was \$7000 paid by WC & BE & DC Avery, Nannup, for Summit Free Spirit (P). Free Spirit was a son of JRI PLD Free Agent and out of Summit Roxy W35. This was a notable pedigree with Roxy the supreme exhibit at the 2002 Brunswick Heifer show.

A March 2007-drop bull,

SUMMIT GELBIEH BULL SALE

(Under the hammer results)

Breed	offered	sold	top	gross	average
Gelbvieh	16	16	\$14,000	\$84,500	\$5281
Red composite	14	14	\$8000	\$67,000	\$4786
Grey composite	15	15	\$5750	\$60,750	\$4050
Black composite	6	5	\$3500	\$14,500	\$2900
Total	51	50	\$14,000	\$226,750	\$4535



Summit bull sale

Free Spirit, had an EMA of 129cm² and weighed in at 804kg. The Avery family were volume Gelbvieh buyers taking home four in total.

Lot one of the sale was a real eye catcher. Stylish, athletic and fully polled, Summit Rockstar was described in the catalogue as a stud sire prospect and that proved to be the case with Phil and Nicole Chalmers, Nypin stud, Esperance, the successful buyers.

Rockstar was March 25, 2007-drop calf, and was sired by JRI PLD Free Agent and out of Summit Roxy. He registered an EMA scan of 125cm², with a P8 fat of 4mm, a rib of 2mm and weighed in at 728kg.

Other Gelbvieh bulls to sell well included the 740kg Summit Freedom Fight, who as a May drop was one of the younger Gelbvieh bulls in the sale. He was bought for \$6750 by Talawa Grazing Company, Mt Barker.

The first son of EGL Fosters (a US bull) to be offered in Australia also went under the hammer. Summit Fosters Fugitive C64 sold to Stan and Sue Hall, Tenterden, for \$5500, while RC & RE Tester, Boyup Brook, were prominent buyers in the Gelbvieh section taking two bulls for \$5500 and \$5000.

The frenetic pace of the Gelbvieh offering didn't slow when the composites strode into the ring. The red composites were offered first, and contained a blend of 50 per cent Gelbvieh, 25pc Murray Grey and 25pc Red Angus. Top price here was paid by a new buyer for the Summit stud, FG & R Cavallo, Donnybrook.

The Cavallo family bought Summit C15, a powerful, deep bull that was 'as soft as butter'. The honey-coloured C15 had an EMA of 125cm², a P8 fat of 13mm, a rib of 6mm and weighed in at 804kg. As a yearling the bull had an average daily weight gain of 2.09kg/day.

The Cavallos said they bought the bull with the intention of trying some different breeding in their commercial program.

They said they liked the bull's light red colouring and his muscle type. C15 will be used over Angus-Freisian and



With the \$8000 top price composite bull at last week's Summit bull sale are John (left), Clare and Harriet Pugh, Summit stud, Landmark stud stock manager Preston Clarke and Landmark stud stock auctioneer John Wirth. The red composite bull was bought by the Cavallo family, Donnybrook.

Hereford-Freisian cows.

Second top in this section was \$6000 paid by WC & BE & DC Avery, who bought the 714kg Summit C67.

Other good prices included \$5750 paid by Landmark Harvey for a 752kg bull with a 123cm² EMA. Landmark Harvey also bought another red for \$5250. MJ Wringe, Kirup, had bought bulls privately from the Pugh family in the past and offered their support to the inaugural sale by taking home Summit C10 for \$5500.

Grey composites, comprised of 50pc Gelbvieh and 50pc Murray Grey, continued the buoyancy of the sale with a top of \$6000 paid by Glenpadden Farms, Kojonup. This bull, a son of Braeside Ventura, was a mountain of meat and had an impressive 138cm² EMA and weighed 786kg. Glenpadden also bought later in the grey section paying \$4250 for another Ventura son.

Not far behind the top price was another Ventura son, Summit C93, who weighed in at 792kg and sold for \$5750. This bull was bought by Landmark Harvey, who showed their liking for the greys taking home five in total.

G & TJ Ross, Denmark, bought one grey at \$4750, while Springfield Farms, Newdegate, paid \$4500 for one.

Despite being small in number, the black composite (50pc Gelbvieh, 25pc Angus

and 25pc Murray Grey) offering was also well received. Top price here was \$3500 paid by Kentdale Grazing, Denmark for a 716kg, long and deep bull. Kentdale also paid \$3000 for a 720kg bull with a 110cm²

EMA, while Sandy Lamb, Perth, also paid \$3000 for one. JJ & MK Hetherington, Mt Barker, and Millbrook Farm, Albany, rounded out the sale with both buying a black bull for \$2500.

SUMMIT GELBVIEH

The Pugh family would like to thank all buyers and visitors for their support at the inaugural on-property sale last week.

We wish them every success with their purchases and hope for more rewarding and profitable times for them in the future.

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