

Waikene Embryo Selection.

Breeding notes on Dec 15 Wagyu embryo shipment to NZ

2016

Goorambat Wagyu is focused on producing a Wagyu female that is adapted to Australian conditions. It has some frame size and milk with an ability to raise a calf naturally whilst still producing a good carcass weight, high marbled offspring. This varies slightly from the Japanese model where calves are hand reared from about 1 week of age and so milk is not considered a valuable trait.

The general Wagyu industry in Australia has been focused on the Tajima strain of Wagyu. Given that there is such a large percentage of the industry with crossbred animals as the end product, this strategy is fine if considering the Wagyu sire is a terminal one. However in order to breed a consistent full blood animal it is necessary to move away from the Tajima focus. Too much concentration here leads to small framed frail cattle with no milk and poor economic viability from poor carcass weights.

Goorambat uses a balance of all 3 main Wagyu strains, mixing the Tajima, Shimane and Tottori main lines to try and breed a balanced Wagyu female. From this background, individual sires can be used over these females to provide progeny for use into the crossbred market but also females that will breed the next generation of full blood animals.

The selected embryos"

BIMFC0001 * GRSFD0066.

This pedigree is special. Using a daughter of the best performed cow in the Goorambat herd (Y061) with a Michifuku son and growth in the sire side as well, (TF Kikuhana and Haruki 11) these embryos will be very high marbling and should have enough carcass growth to provide a very profitable outcome. The bull calves from these can be used as F1 sires and the daughters will be great fullblood females to breed on with.

KJDFC0086 * KJDFC0026

This pedigree combines Michifuku on the top line with more Tajima than BIMFC0001 so a real marbling topline. Used over a Terutani 40/1 daughter and back to Itohana 2, the female is providing growth, milk and carcass traits and the sire provides the marbling. Terutani 40/1 is a very under-rated sire and provides some beautiful brood cows.

TFWFW0629 * GRSFE0135'

This pedigree is the classic balancing pedigree of using a very high Tajima sire over the growth, milk size cow pedigree of Shimane/Itozakura prefecture. The progeny may be slightly longer to get to finish than the other pedigrees as the female side is a slower marbling higher carcass weight pedigree. The sire side does not have the growth attributes but is a pure marbling pedigree.

ECHFA3001 & GRSFF0142

This pedigree is a well balanced combination of Tajima and Shimane and combines them very nicely. A3001 has been producing some really fine marbled carcasses over a longer feeding regime and the female pedigree has a sire line that have had many shorter term finished carcasses, with only about 330 days on feed being common. A3001 has been underutilised in our herd and we have really used him quite heavily during 2015 joinings to get his attributes into the herd again.

compiled by Dominic Bayard. Dec 15

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