



BRITISH SIMMENTAL

CATTLE SOCIETY



BRITISH SIMMENTAL ANNOUNCES EXCITING NEW 'NEXT GENERATION' SALE FIXTURE TO BE HELD AT CARLISLE IN DECEMBER 2021

The British Simmental Cattle Society has announced an exciting new sale fixture to be held at Harrison & Hetherington's Borderway Mart, Carlisle on 3rd December this year.

Titled as the Simmental 'Next Generation' Sale, the new fixture will be for all classes of pedigree Simmental females, and with a further section for pedigree Simmental Weaned Calves born in the 2021 year. Held on one day, the fixture will see a show for the females, followed by the weaned calves with classes for bulls and heifers, and with the sale itself held thereafter.

Announcing the launch of this new fixture, the British Simmental Cattle Society's President, Stewart Stronach said that the timing was 'just right' for the breed to introduce a high-profile Society sale of pedigree females and with the new dynamic of a section of weaned calves. Commenting he said:

"It is the aim that this fixture can quickly establish itself to be a showcase sale for the Simmental



breed that provides the quality, performance and genetics for 'next generation' cornerstone cattle in herds across the UK. The introduction of a weaned calf section for registered calves born in the year of the sale is an exciting inclusion and a new way for breeders to market calves with breeding, style and potential. We hope that this sale will have something for everyone and will offer choice and



opportunities for new and established pedigree breeders, and also for commercial producers."

Harrison & Hetherington will host the sale at their Borderway Mart, Carlisle, a venue that has been chosen to be as accessible as possible for both buyers and sellers from around Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

In further comments, Mr Stronach went on to say: "British Simmental is established as one of the most profitable breeds in the beef industry and has all the attributes to be a 'go to mainstay' of the

commercial suckler herd across the UK. In addition to its premier and well-established maternal qualities, we know that Simmental is the No.1 Continental Beef Breed for Age at Slaughter, and with its growth advantages can deliver a green beef product with increased profitability. Commercial producers are recognising the versatility and natural efficiencies of the Simmental breed and this is driving pedigree sales and the strong returns we are seeing for Simmental influenced cattle in commercial rings. It is a timely point to announce this exciting new fixture and to widen the reach and availability of British Simmental".

PROVISIONAL SIMMENTAL 'NEXT GENERATION' SALE SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

Following the recent announcement we have been delighted with the response to, and the anticipation of, this new Simmental 'Next Generation' sale fixture. With the sale itself little over six months away, we are very keen to outline the provisional schedule in order to help you consider and take aim at what females and young calves you may wish to enter.

The schedule has been designed to be as inclusive as possible across both sections. Come sale time we've changed things up a little to allow the weaned calves to be sold in herd consignments and with choices to sell them in pairs where you may choose to.

Entries will be open from Monday 14th June and by visiting the Simmental section within the H&H website at: <https://harrisonandhetherington.co.uk/entry-forms/pedigree-beef-online/?catid=62&cat=simmental> The closing date for entries is Monday 4th October.

This is an exciting new event for the Society to launch and we hope that it will become an annual fixture that will be a first class sale platform and a terrific showcase for the breed. As such we very much hope that you will consider supporting the inaugural Simmental 'Next Generation' Sale and from here the Society will continue to promote it at every opportunity. Look out for further updates and announcements regarding the sale in due course through both newsletters and social media.

The provisional Simmental 'Next Generation' show and sale schedule is as follows:

SIMMENTAL FEMALES

Pedigree Simmental Cow, in calf

Pedigree Simmental Cow, with calf at foot

Pedigree Simmental Heifer, with calf at foot, and/or in-calf (aged not more than 36 months at calving. Heifers in-calf must be served or inseminated more than 12 weeks warranted, and due to calve before attaining the age of 36 months)

Pedigree Simmental Heifer, born between 1.1.2020. and 30.6.2020.

Pedigree Simmental Heifer, born between 1.7.2020. and 31.12.2020.

All female entries will be sold in age order.



All females must be halter led.

All females will be subject to a crush inspection prior to the sale.

SIMMENTAL WEANED CALVES

The sale will be open to bull and heifer calves born on or after 1st January 2021.

Pedigree Simmental Bull Calf, born in 2021. (Calves to be divided into appropriate sized classes for judging by age.)

Pedigree Simmental Heifer Calf, born in 2021. (Calves to be divided into appropriate sized classes for judging by age.)

Bull and heifer calves to be sold in separate sections.

Bull and heifer calves must be halter led to be shown.

Bull calves will be subject to a crush inspection for teeth and testicles.

Heifer calves will require an ID check only.

Calves will not be sold in age order but will be sold in vendors consignments of a maximum of six calves per consignment. Calves may be sold in pairs (i.e. choice of pair).

The consignments of weaned calves will be balloted prior to being catalogued and the sale order will be as per the catalogue.

The sale will be conducted in guineas with no upset price.

General:

All entries in both the female, and weaned calf sections must be fully pedigree registered with the Society at close of entries.

All entries in both sections must be offered for sale.

All entries for both the females and weaned calf sections must be DNA sire verified.

All herds entering must be members of a CHECS approved herd health scheme.

In addition to the stipulations here, the general sale rules of the British Simmental Cattle Society will apply.

At the close of entries the Society reserves the right to amend the classes and subject to the entries received.

IT'S BACK! THE 2021 'VIRTUAL' BRITISH SIMMENTAL SHOW IS SET TO GET UNDERWAY



Dust off your cameras and get ready to start snapping as the 2021 'Virtual' British Simmental Show is set to commence. One of the highlights of the 2020 year for members, and for the ever-growing audience watching online around the world, last years 'virtual' show saw an incredible 745 pedigree British Simmental animals enter entered over ten classes by 161 breeders from all four corners of the UK!

This 'good fun' competition proved to be a social media hit being the largest event of it's type in the year, and proving to be a fantastic showcase of the breed highlighting some terrific British Simmental cattle and bloodlines. So very much back by popular demand, here we go again and with the same simple principles as last year with just one or two tweaks.

A picture-based competition, and with a video class introduced this year, the main aim continues to be the promotion of the wonderful Simmental breed, with pictures of quality cattle showcasing all the great attributes Simmentals have to offer. With the amazing reach of the event through social media and websites last year, the 2021 event is again a first-class opportunity for members to promote their herds and British Simmental genetics to breeders, potential buyers, commercial producers, the UK industry in all its parts, and to a global online audience interested in good cattle and Simmental genetics. It will hopefully again act as a stimulus for forward sales, and general interest and enquiries in the breed.

So a few reminders of the focus of the 2021 'Virtual' British Simmental Show:

- It's very much a 'fun' competition! We want you to compete and take part in the light-touch, good fun manner in which the competition is based upon.

- All pictures should be natural shots of the cattle in the field, and taken by breeder owners as you go around your cattle. We're not looking for professional photographers to be employed!



2020 Overall Champion - Vale Royal Heavenly Girlie

- Please note the introduction of a new Bull Class (Class Eight); and a new Special class for one minute's video footage showcasing the animals of your choice on-farm.

The full 2021 'Virtual' British Simmental Show schedule is as follows:

Class 1: Autumn born bull calf, born between 1st July 2020 and 31st December 2020. Calf name and date of birth to be stated.

Class 2: Autumn born heifer calf, born between 1st July 2020 and 31st December 2020. Calf name and date of birth to be stated.

Class 3: Mature bull, born before 1st July 2018. Bull name and date of birth to be stated.

Class 4: Cow any age in milk. Udder must be seen in picture, no calf to be seen in picture, Cow name and date of birth to be stated.

Class 5: Spring born bull calf. Born in 2021. Calf name and date of birth to be stated.



Class 6: Spring born heifer calf. Born in 2021. Calf name and date of birth to be stated.

Class 7: Young bull class: born January to June 2020. Bull name and date of birth to be stated.

Class 8: Bull class: born between 1st July 2018 and 31st December 2019.

Special class: One minute video of any animals/herds in a setting of your choice.

Special class: Group picture, a scenic shot.

Special class: Commercial, any picture of Simmental sire calf or calves, sires name to be stated.

Special class: Young members, something light-touch involving young members and Simmentals. Picture must be taken by, or feature a young Simmental member.

	Entries open	Entries close
Class 1: Autumn born bull calf	25 th June	1 st July
Class 2: Autumn born heifer calf	2 nd July	8 th July
Class 3: Mature bull	9 th July	15 th July
Class 4: Cow any age in milk	16 th July	22 nd July
Class 5: Spring born bull calf	23 rd July	29 th July
Class 6: Spring born heifer calf	30 th July	5 th August
Class 7: Young bull class	6 th August	12 th August
Class 8: Bull class	13 th August	19 th August
Special class: One minute video	20 th August	26 th August
Special class: Group picture	20 th August	26 th August
Special class: Commercial sired calf or calves	20 th August	26 th August
Special class: Young members	20 th August	26 th August
Male Champion	Announced w/c 30 th August	
Female Champion	Announced w/c 30 th August	
Champion	Announced w/c 30 th August	

From this announcement in the newsletter the 'virtual' show will again be promoted continuously through the Society's Facebook in the run up to entries opening on 25th June and throughout the duration of the competition.

Each class will have a different judge, and this year it is very much an aim to invite some of the many excellent 'young' judges that are dotted around the UK.

The first class will be announced and opened on 25th June and run for one week. The next class will then be opened, and so on, for the remaining weeks. Entries will be required in by Thursday Midnight for the respective classes. Thereafter the respective classes will be judged over the weekend with all photographs entered dripped out from the Monday on Facebook and with the 'big reveal' of results later in the same week. All entries are required to be emailed to kate@britishsimmental.co.uk or information@britishsimmental.co.uk.

ADDITIONAL POINTS AND RULES

- Only one photo to be submitted for each animal
- You can enter as many animals as you like in the respective classes
- Photo must focus on only the one animal – except in the special group classes
- You must be the owner of the animal in the photo you are entering
- No professional photos
- When entering, you must provide name of animal for entry to be valid
- Entries must have been received by Midnight on the closing date

WHAT THEY SAID LAST YEAR

Billy Robson, Kilbride Farm Herd: The standard of entry has been remarkably high and over such a big number of entries...the future of the Simmental breed looks very good..

Robin Boyd, Slievenagh Herd: The 'virtual' show really highlighted some tremendous Simmental cattle. There were a lot of good young bulls shown but the senior class of 57 working stock bulls was a stand-out for me...

Robert MacGregor, Team Herd: A terrific idea with no shows in the year and to see a class of over 150 cows was outstanding and showed the qualities within the breed in depth..

Michael Barlow, Denizes Herd: 750 entries way exceeded the Society's expectations. Hats off to the breeder members who supported this event and have set a very high bar in showcasing British Simmental...

If you had a go in 2020 then please do so again. If you watched in from the outside last year then now's your chance to have a crack in 2021! Your support is what will again make this event. We again very much hope that this competition can be a talking point and a bit of fun for everyone to take part in. Most important of all is the anticipation of the flood of wonderful pictures across social media promoting the British Simmental breed. British Simmental: The Breed That You Can Bank On #No1ContinentalBreedforAgeAtSlaughter

Look out for updates on Facebook from here and if you have any queries to this competition then please phone 02476 696513 or email information@britishsimmental.co.uk



'NEW LOOK' BRITISH SIMMENTAL WEBSITE SET TO BE LAUNCHED IN JUNE

The Society is working hard to finalise the new look British Simmental website and with the aim of launching it through June. First notified in the 2020 Review, the aim is that the new site is an easy to use, one stop information hub that professionally promotes all aspects of British Simmental.

Visually strong www.britishsimmental.co.uk will compliment breed messages on social media but will have in depth content and information for visitors wishing to read and reference breed society news and information in depth.

Compatible with mobiles, tablets, and PC's, the site will be user friendly and with a concentration on easy access to the most used pages. In harness with Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and the Society's online www.simmentalmarket.co.uk, the new website

will provide the linkage required to promote British Simmental to commercial producers, breeders, interested parties, and the industry at large. For members in particular the aim is for the site to be informative, helpful, and to add value to your membership.

A rolling process of improvement, the site will be launched and from that point, taking into account all feedback and user experience, will continue to be developed, added to, and enhanced as required. Look out on British Simmental Facebook for the new site being launched and notified.



CAN YOU HELP WITH SIMMENTAL PROMOTION?

Facebook and social media continues to be a fantastic vehicle to promote the breed and Society to a widespread audience. In recent months we have worked hard to build the profile of the breed with regular Facebook posts on a wide range of breed news and matters starting to gain traction. The reach of these posts continues to grow significantly and with that the number of followers. The anticipation is that the upcoming 'Virtual' Show will again attract a huge audience. The Market Briefs of Simmental commercial performance in the market place is proving to be very popular. Whether it be upcoming sales and reports; herd events & news; pictures; or just general Simmental news, the growing interest and following is there to enhance the promotion of the breed.

Can you help with Simmental promotion? We'd love to receive any Simmental news or snippets that we could follow up and post on Facebook. Whether it's Simmentals topping your local market; examples of high performing commercial or pedigree animals; quality pictures or videos; upcoming events or sales; then please let us know and we'll do the necessities thereafter. If you could email through to information@britishsimmental.co.uk or Tel: 02476 696513 that would be great and hugely helpful.

PROPOSED CHECS CHANGES IN JOHNE'S DISEASE TESTING RULES

Members will be aware of proposed changes to Johne's disease testing protocols that have been announced by CHECS, which sets industry standards for cattle disease control across UK and Ireland. The changes may affect subsequent herd Risk Levels.

CHECS has outlined that the rule changes are aimed at increasing consistency and confidence in Johne's disease test results. The changes are planned to come into effect from 1 July 2021 across all CHECS-licensed health schemes and laboratories.

Previously, the CHECS rules allowed Johne's disease blood test positive results to be followed up with confirmatory testing at the discretion of the health scheme. CHECS have stated that to increase consistency and efficacy, and reduce a possible source of variation between schemes, the new rules will:

1. Limit confirmatory testing of blood test positive animals to herds with a seroprevalence of 2% or less (or one animal).
2. Require all laboratories offering a CHECS-licensed cattle health scheme to participate in the same faecal **Mycobacterium avium subspecies paratuberculosis** (MAP) detection ring testing scheme (scheme, and date of adoption, to be agreed by the Board).

The proposals have been discussed fully by the BSCS Council and along with veterinary input from the Society' vet Gareth Boyes, and along with Dr **Sam Strain**, Programme Manager for Animal Health and Welfare Northern Ireland. The Society has also participated in a meeting of the NBA Pedigree Breed Societies Committee to further discuss the proposals. At the time of writing, representation has been made by the Pedigree Breed Societies Committee to the NBA and CHECS asking for further discussion and clarification around a number of points within the proposals. Members will be further updated around this matter in due course and when the Society is in a position to do so.

UPDATE: DNA TRANSITION TO SNP TECHNOLOGY

As you are aware, in a progressive and necessary step, the Society is in the ongoing process of moving its DNA services from Microsatellite (MS) technology to Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP) technology.

Transition work was commenced in January with the Society identifying a list of the most commonly used Simmental sires. This has grown to be inclusive of all sires that have had at least one calf registered to them in the last three years. A number of aged sires have also been profiled and we have been very grateful to the Irish Simmental Society who have shared some of their SNP profiles on bulls that have been used in the UK herdbook. During the period of January to March we stored routine samples received from members requiring DNA profiling. This allowed us in that time to build up the SNP profile database to carry out the profiling work required using the new technology. Sale animals received in this same period continued to be prioritised using the existing technology.

By March, a significant database of sire SNP profiles had been compiled and this allowed us to resume the usual day to day DNA profiling and using the new technology. The samples received between January and March were of course prioritised and have now almost completely been processed. Weatherbys had asked that we did not send samples of animals whose sires had not been SNP profiled and asked that we firstly acquire a sample for SNP profiling of those respective sires. This is ongoing and thank you to everyone who has forwarded samples upon request. Where a sample has been requested could we please ask that you forward this as soon as is practical as it is an essential requirement and will help considerably with the process time of your outstanding DNA testing requirements. If this given sire is dead, or no longer in your ownership would you please contact the office and let us know.

As at present, over 1000 Simmental sires have been SNP profiled and this will increase as we locate and test the further sires required. For routine DNA testing, and where sires are now SNP profiled, the turn round time from receipt of sample to test results being notified remains at 4-6 weeks. This is in line with the previous testing period using the MS technology.

In what is a very involved process requiring a lot of manual administration, the transition process is going well and largely smoothly. Apologies are extended to any member where a little time has been taken to chase, receive, and test required animals for SNP profiling. The transition work is ongoing and we will continue to keep members informed of progress.

VERY IMPORTANT: DNA SAMPLES FOR SALE ANIMALS

Please note, it is extremely important that samples for animals entered for Society sales must be received at the Society's office 12 weeks in advance of the sale date, and with bags labelled clearly as 'sale animals'.

The twelve-week period is needed in case there are any issues with the first sample received. This may be that the sample is not of good enough quality, does not carry the required content of DNA, or actually comes back with an exclusion. With the SNP process a set number of days are required for testing. Samples cannot be fast tracked as they were with the MS technology. The twelve-week period is therefore essential to cover any scenario where a second sample and test is required. **This is an extremely important point for members to be aware of.**

DNA PROFILING OF AGED EMBRYOS & DNA PROFILING OF BULLS THROUGH SEMEN

Following the various emails to members, thank you to everyone who supplied details of embryos that they have in storage which they are intending to use, and where they are uncertain if the parents are DNA profiled. In all we have had details from approximately 60 members notifying various numbers of stored embryos and the respective matings. These are all now being checked to ascertain what DNA profiles are held for the given animals, and to ascertain what is possible to do going forward. In due course recommendations will be considered by Council and members will be duly notified and informed. Thank you also to everyone who has notified the Society of stored semen that they hold. In instances this will prove invaluable in helping with aged embryo DNA testing and also in establishing further sire SNP profiles for use by the membership as a whole.

MEMBER'S EMAIL ADDRESSES

As previously, the Society is very keen to continue the development of regular, good communications with the membership. The quickest and most cost-effective means of doing this is by email. We have been sending out emails around such as upcoming sale information, and communications regarding DNA testing. However we are conscious that a number of email addresses may require updating and a number of email addresses still need to be supplied. Could we therefore respectfully ask that you check your email address that is presently on the Society database, and let us know if there are any amendments required. If you have not previously submitted an email address and would like to do so, then please let the office team know and we will happily add it accordingly. Many thanks in anticipation.

SIMMENTALS AT THE HEART

OF THE SIMMERS FAMILY LARGE-SCALE CATTLE ENTERPRISE

Feature on the pedigree and commercial cattle enterprise, comprising some 600 cows, of the Simmers family, Backmuir Farm, Keith, Banffshire.

Over the past seven years, the Simmers family have transformed their large-scale cattle enterprise by moving to a closed herd and breeding their own replacements, with Simmentals at the forefront of this new streamlined system.

The farming business runs in conjunction with the family's livestock trading business and construction company, with Philip Simmers working in partnership with his brother Symon and alongside his sons, Reece and Andrew. Within the mixed farming enterprise, based between Backmuir, at Keith, Morayshire, and Oldmeldrum in Aberdeenshire, they grow 2500 acres of cereals and run 600 cows.

Previously, Limousin and Blue cross Friesian heifers were bought in to form the basis of the suckler herd, but a diminishing availability of those type of females led to the decision to change entire system. Philip explains: "We were struggling to get the numbers and type of heifers that we wanted, so we revaluated the whole system and decided to make changes. We used to sell suckled calves, but we decided to go entirely beef bred and start finishing all our own cattle. We started buying Sim-Luings and were really impressed with them – they're efficient, hard-working cows, with minimal calving difficulties."

The success with the Sim-Luings resulted in the Simmers establishing their own pure Luings and Simmental herds,



Brothers Symon and Philip Simmers from the left, with Philip's sons Andrew and Reece.

in order to breed their own replacements. There are now 200 pure Luings, with some of those bred pure and some to the Simmental, and the family's Backmuir Simmental herd of 50 cows. The rest of the herd is made up of Sim-Luings, which currently go to the Simmental or the Charolais bull.

“ The Sim-Luings maintain their condition all year; they are easy fleshing and they pass that onto their offspring, whatever they are crossed with. We're moving towards using entirely Simmental bulls on the Sim-Luings because we've been finding a big demand for the females,” says Philip.

For the number of females, 30 bulls are needed at any one time, and the Simmers are not afraid to spend big to get the bulls they want. Current bulls include Islavale Hamilton, Islavale Imperial and Corrick Hayden, while the new additions in February 2020, where Philip judged the pre-sale show, were the overall champion, Wolfstar Jackaroo at 18,000gns and the reserve senior champion, Wolfstar Jimmy Choo at 17,000gns. Earlier this month in a private sale, the herd bought Lisglass Kirk, a twenty-month-old son of Mullyknock Gallant, for £25,000 from Leslie and Christopher Weatherup, Co Antrim, a breed record for a bull bred in Northern Ireland.

“If we see something we like, then we try to buy it – we've never regretted paying a bit more to get a better quality bull, because we find they pay their way in the long-run. We're looking for the same type of bull for the commercial and pedigree herds – long, with a good top and bottom line, good plates, a good, square back-end, correct on their legs, with character of the head.”

The cows run at the Simmers' farms at Keith – they are batched as young heifers and tend to run in those same groups their whole lives. Bulls go out on June 1st for 10 weeks and Philip says that since switching breeds, 60% of the cows calve in the first cycle, with that number increasing all the time.



He adds: “The Sim-Luings are easily kept through the winter. They are housed purely because our ground conditions do not allow for them to be kept out, but they maintain their fitness all year and because of this, they calve easily. There's a fine balance to make sure they're not over-fat, but for us, they certainly need to be in good condition at calving time to ensure fewer problems.

“Heifers are calved from 30 months onwards, which again, works for our system. We find if we let them grow on naturally and don't push them when they're young, then they last a lot longer, are better on their feet and legs and have fewer problems as they get older.” The majority of the cattle calve in the spring on straw bedded courts and



Lisglass Kirk



are put back outside as soon as possible. Calves are vaccinated for lungworm at the end of July and are weaned at the end of October, having had no creep feed up until that point.

Philip explains: **“We went from taking two cuts of silage to just one cut and the cows and calves go onto the silage aftermath. The biggest daily liveweight gain in the calves is when they're with their mothers on good grass, with plenty milk. It's better for the farm in general too and we're using less fertiliser.”** At the end of October, the calves are penned and fed on a silage and grain diet with supplement protein. They remain on that, with barley increasing on a monthly basis. Bull calves, which are all left entire, receive a more intensive grain diet for the last 8-10 weeks, while any heifers that are not being retained for breeding go on an ad-lib cereal-based diet for 8-10 weeks from the middle of May.

“The silage-based diet helps them to grow and then the grain puts the weight on. All last year's spring calves had left the farm by August

of the following year, with bulls averaging 390kg d/w selling to Highland Meats, while heifers average between 350kg and 380kg d/w,” says Philip. The heifers being retained for breeding receive a silage and straw diet with minerals and a little supplement grain in the first winter, and then only silage and straw.

Philip adds: “We try not to give those heifers much grain at all as we find they last longer and have fewer problems when they're allowed to grow naturally. It also means they are fairly cheap to keep over the two winters until they calve.”

Depending on how many females are being kept, the team normally finish 500 calves annually, all on home-grown feeding, with only protein and minerals bought in. In addition to the feed barley, they also grow 2000 acres of malting barley each year, with all land work carried out in-house since 2010 by the team of six full-time staff across the cereals and livestock.





"With the reduction in staff nowadays, the cows really have to be able to look after themselves the majority of the time. In our experience, with the Sim-Luings we are producing an ideal cow for our system," says Philip. The team are planning towards a sale of females and bulls in 2022, which they hope to become an annual event. It will showcase just how far the businesses have come, through the family's hard work and determination, which began with Philip and Symon's father, Willie, who started working at Backmuir aged 14 before training as a blacksmith. He eventually went back and bought the farm that he started out at and the enterprise grew from there.

"We've always invested in land when we could and then paying that gives us the incentive to work harder. It's difficult though in farming, to get a fair price for what you're producing, so by concentrating on keeping up the quality of our females and getting our calves away as young as possible, it's giving us the best chance of making a profit."

An added focus for the family, has been their pedigree Simmental herd, which started in 2018 with the purchase of 20 females from the Starline herd. Another, bought as a bulling heifer, Sterling FCUK Impuls, ensured them plenty success in the showing in 2019, finishing female and reserve breed champion at the Scottish National Show at Kelso. She also won overall champion at Turrieff Show; reserve female and reserve breed champion at the Royal Highland and Keith Show, and stood overall in the Scottish Beef Champion of Champions at Keith.

Aiming to breed the type of bulls that they like to buy themselves,



their debut selling at Stirling in October 2020 went well, with sons of Corrick Hayden making 8000gns and 7000gns. This was followed up in February this year at Stirling when the sale second top price was 15,000gns for Backmuir Kraken 19, the first son to be sold at sale by Islavale Hamilton 16 and is out of the dam, Starline Kreole 11th. A bull with 'good power and style, and very correct in his legs', he headed south of the border and to the new pedigree herd of AR Bulmer, Coultas Farm, Malton, North Yorkshire.

"Our goal is to produce the best of females, as that's what ensures results in the long term, and if we can breed some good bulls along the way, then that's ideal," adds Philip.



£25,000 LISGLASS KIRK SETS NEW BREED RECORD FOR A SIMMENTAL BULL BRED IN N IRELAND

The sale of Lisglass Kirk for £25,000 to the Simmers family, Backmuir Farm, Keith by County Antrim breeders Leslie and Christopher Weatherup, set a new breed record of £25,000 for a Simmental bull bred in Northern Ireland.

The five-figure price tag is a dream come true for the father and son duo. "We're totally overwhelmed!" explained Leslie Weatherup who has previously sold bulls to a top of 10,000gns at Stirling, and females for a herd best of 6,600gns. The record-breaking bull is Lisglass Kirk, a twenty-month-old son of the NI-bred Mullyknock Gallant. His dam is the 2017 Balmoral Show champion Lisglass Goddess GP83, a daughter of the herd's successful stock bull Dermotstown Delboy, Balmoral supremo in 2014 and 2015.

Christopher Weatherup explained: "This bull stood out from

the moment he was born, and is one of the most outstanding bulls we have ever bred. He is extremely correct and has tremendous length, power and muscle, coupled with style and breed character. We firmly believe he has a big future within the Simmental breed."

"Until now, I hadn't fully appreciated the power of social media. My wife Laura took videos, and we posted photographs on Facebook. The response went beyond all expectations and we actually averaged £9,500 for four bulls sold."

Last year Liglass Kirk was placed sixth in the autumn bull calf class during the British Simmental Cattle Society's Virtual Show. The online competition attracted a strong entry of 68 young bulls born between July and December 2019.

SIMMENTAL SOCIETY SALES ROUND-UP

The following is a pictorial and info-graphic snapshot of the Society sales held in the 2021 year to date. Held in the ongoing Covid situation but during a beef industry 'bounce', the sales have seen less Simmental numbers forward than would be usual but amidst feedback from members on the strong demand for bulls at home with big numbers being sold. This momentum in the breed has continued at the sales with an all-sale breed record average being set at Stirling in

February; a record average for Worcester being set at the May Sale; and a record average being set for the May Sale fixture at Stirling. Thrown in a 26,000gns record for a Welsh Simmental; Simmentals leading the all-breeds trade at Aberdeen; along with some tremendous sale clearances; and it all adds up to a pretty solid sale year to date. For full reports and pictures of all the sales then please go to: <https://www.britishsimmental.co.uk/sales-1>

26,000GNS PISTYLL KINGSMAN HEADS UP STRONG DEMAND AS SIMMENTAL BULLS SET A RECORD BREED AVERAGE AT STIRLING

26,000gns is the second top price for a Simmental bull sold at auction in the UK, and a new Welsh record for a British Simmental.

SALE AVERAGE

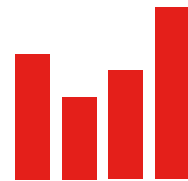


to a breed record £6482
for the 64 bulls sold



up by 15%, and the
highest in the sale week

26,000GNS



was the **all-breeds
top sale price** in
the week.

SIX BULLS MADE OVER 10,000GNS with 28 in all making 6,000gns or more



8,800GNS CORSKIE KIRBY LEADS SIMMENTALS & ALL-BREEDS TRADE AT ABERDEEN

- Backmuir King Kong sells for 7500gns
- Islavale Kenny sells for 7000gns
- Rockytop Krakatoa sells for 6700gns



10 Simmental bulls
AVERAGE
£5,540

CADE KOLOSSAL LEADS MELTON MOWBRAY SIMMENTAL SALE AT 3,000GNS

AVERAGES:

3 Bulls £2870
4 Heifers £1680



Cade Kolossal 3,000gns

ASHLAND LAD LEADS DUNGANNON SIMMENTAL SALE AT 5,600GNS

AVERAGES:

6 Bulls £3,623
2 Heifers £1,890



Ashland Lad 5,600gns



Kilbride Farm Karl 4,100gns



**Advertise your animals for
sale online today!**

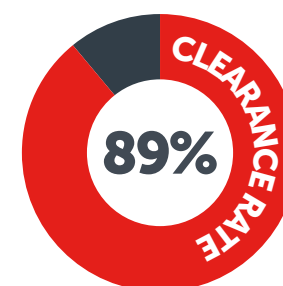
View all animals available for sale, including pictures, links to their pedigrees, any accompanying notes, and the contact details of the owner breeders.

www.simmentalmarket.co.uk

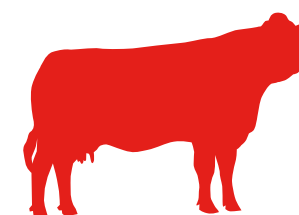
7,000GNS GRANGEWOOD KEEGAN LEADS THE DEMAND FOR SIMMENTAL BULLS AT WORCESTER



Eight bulls set **record Worcester Simmental average** of £4987.50, up £977.5



with four
bulls selling at
5,000gns or more



Midhope leads
the females at
3,850gns



Grangewood Keegan 7,000gns



Starline Karl 5,500gns



Midhope Kerry 3,850gns

5,000GNS MANOR PARK LACHLAN LEADS THE MAY SIMMENTAL TRADE AT CARLISLE

AVERAGES:

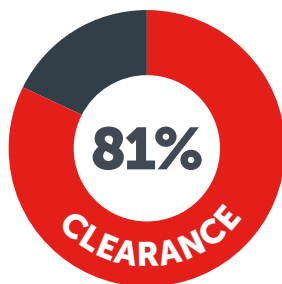
5 Bulls £3885
2 Females £2730



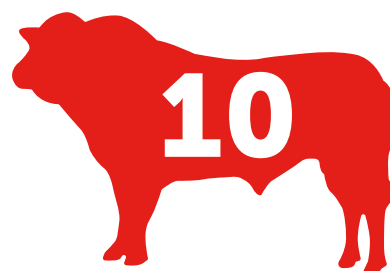
Manor Park Lachlan 5,000gns

9,500GNS DENIZES KNOCKOUT TOPS RECORD SIMMENTAL MAY SALE AVERAGE AT STIRLING

**RECORD
STIRLING
SIMMENTAL MAY
SALE AVERAGE OF
£5,345 (+£510)**



with 21 out of 26 bulls
sold through the ring



bulls make 5,000gns
and over

Denizes Knockout 9,500gns



Overhill House King Henry 8,000gns



Roma Kinetic 8,000gns



Islavale Keyo 6,500gns



Coltfield Kilcoy 6,500gns



Crudie Kabull 6,000gns

