

SALE REPORTS

DAWSON CREEK HOLDS 37TH ANNUAL ALL BREEDS BULL SALE

Story and Photos by Patsy Nagel

On March 27th, the annual bull sale was held under the auspices of the BC Peace River Purebred Breeders Association. A total of 44 bulls went under the hammer with Vold Jones and Vold auctioneer, Shawn Gist, taking bids.

This sale is unique, as they hold a show in the morning, where a panel of 3 judges choose the best bulls in each breed to win valuable prizes. This encourages the producers to present bulls that are clean, trained to lead and shown to their best advantage.



Grand Champion Charolais bull

A good crowd was out to watch the show of champions, beginning with the Charolais bulls. First place and Grand Champion bull went to a tan yearling entered by Poplar View Cattle Co. from High Prairie, Alberta. Reserve was a white yearling from Briar Ridge Stock Farm, Bay Tree, Alberta. They later sold for \$2000 and \$1400 respectively.



The Grand Champion Hereford bull

The Herefords came in next with a large class of yearlings, followed by three classes of two year old bulls, both horned and polled. The yearling class was won by Chad Haddow, with two of his bulls tied for first. The top two in each of the three two year old classes then competed against the yearlings, but both grand and reserve went to the big fellows. Eureka Hereford Farms, Inc. from Eureka River, Alberta, won Grand Champion with their horned, 1950 pound bull, EHF Domino 51U. This

bull was purchased by the South Peace Colony, Farmington, BC. for \$2400. Reserve Champion went to a polled bull, Reber's Ultimate 16P 12U, weighing in at 1690 pounds. He sold to Camero Herefords, Grande Prairie, Alberta for \$2000.



Grand Champion Simmentals bull

In the Simmentals, a two year old entry, weighing 1820 pounds, from J & M Farms, Cecil Lake, BC, was named Grand Champion and was later purchased by Ken Kennedy from Progress, BC. for \$1500. Reserve went to a 1340 pound December 2008 bull from John Smith, Bonanza, Alberta and sold for \$1500 to Bruce Jack, Spirit River, Alberta.

Only one Black Angus turned out for the sale. Classic Prime Cut, 939W, entered by Risa Iwasiak, High Prairie, Alberta, weighing 1050 pounds, sold to Dale Rutz, Rose Prairie, BC for \$1950. High selling bull of the sale was an entry from Benwyn Farms, Progress BC. This 2010 pound horned Hereford bull sold to Eugene Slette, LaGlance Alberta for \$2600.

Prior to the sale, a panel of 3 selectors checked each bull for soundness. These volunteers were, Mike McConnell, Martin Riddle, and Dan Schleppe. The volunteer judges for the show, were Mike Ross, Steve Aylward and Don Murphy.

There were also many donors and volunteers who help this sale continue each year. First prize gifts of 5 litres of Ivermectin were donated by Compass Animal Health, and went to the winner of each breed in the show. Reserve winners received 2.5 litres of Dectomax from Pfizer Animal Health.

The purchaser of each Grand Champion bull received a coat donated by Champion Feeds of Grande Prairie, Alberta. They also gave a coat to one

winner in the buyers' draw. Another winner in the buyers' draw, received a \$100 gift certificate from the Dawson Creek Vet Clinic. Many local businesses supported the sale by purchasing ads in the catalog. All this support keeps the sale going each year and is appreciated by the bull sale committee, who work very hard to put on a good show and sale. The association's president is Bill Bentley, VP Don Murphy, Sec/treas. Chris Haddow and directors are: Sheri Murphy, Eugene Slette, Serena Reber, Ashley Pugh, Monty Bentley, Randy Haddow, Doug Bentley, and John Smith. This year the association donated the Murray Howe Memorial Herdsman Award. Marie Howe presented this coveted prize to J & M Farms, the Giesbrecht family, of Cecil Lake BC. This award is in memory of Murray Howe who passed away suddenly last year. He was a strong supporter of the Dawson Creek All Breeds Bull Sale for many years.



The Murray Howe Memorial Award for Herdsman of the Day was presented by Marie Howe to Jerry and John Giesbrecht of J & M

VALLEY CHAROLAIS BULL SALE

Story by Keith Altwasser

Results of our Valley Charolais Bull Sale held on March 11th at Valley Auction. Altwasser Charolais sale average on 15 yearling bulls is \$2917. The high sellers are Lot #9 (Polled, 1582lbs, 40cm) sold for \$4500 to Squaw Valley Ranch, Lumby and Lot #8 (Polled, 1552lbs, 35.5cm) sold for \$4200 to Big Smokey Hereford Ranch, Lumby and Lot #1 (Polled, 1928lbs, 38.5cm) sold for \$3700 to Tom Shelford, Burns Lake. RRTS Charolais sold 15 yearling bulls to avg. \$2507. Lot #23 (Polled. 1340lbs, 36cm) sold for \$3100 to Lee Creek Holdings, Chase and Lot # 36 (Polled, 1294lbs, 36cm) sold for \$3000 to Coldstream Ranch, Vernon. The overall sale average on 30 bulls is \$2712. Volume buyers are Coldstream Ranch, Vernon 6 bulls and Fraser River Ranch, Williams Lake taking 4 bulls. We had a great turn out with many repeat buyers and some new customers participating. I guess the industry has some positive vibes.