

BYO gumboots for the Ascot-Neimen sale

By Tracey Hartmann

For the second year running the Galloway's hosted a muddy bull sale in September, but buyers were delighted to dust off their gumboots for the occasion.

There was no hesitation from bidders with a new record sale average of \$5,400 achieved and a total clearance of all 47 bulls offered.

Bidders and buyers came from as far away as Dubbo in the south and Hughenden in the north.

There was much enthusiasm in the stands for the first bull of the day, Ascot Waler, boasting an EMA of 141 and weighing almost 1,000 kg. He attracted the second top price of the sale from repeat buyers Larry and Beth Acton for \$11,500.

It was an impressive young herd bull by Ascot O.R. that caused the most lively bidding duel of the day between Jack Meek of 'Cargara' Augathella and phone bidder Sue Baker from Rolleston.

Jack was determined to secure this growthy bull and he paid the top price of the sale of \$15,500 for the privilege.

Sue and her husband Frank Bird couldn't make it in person due to flooded creeks, but they were able to purchase, Ascot Will, for \$7,000 by phone earlier in the sale.

David and Liz Bird from Indiana Station were also phone bidders and bought an Ascot Rum bull for \$7,500.

Warren and Sue Wilson from Mitchell purchased Lot 2, Ascot Warrant, for \$9,500.

The first progeny by outside sire K-Jays One was offered this year and Carmel Comerford from Nebo purchased one of these bulls for \$7,000.

Brian and Trinket Anderson from 'Glenovon' Theodore bought the top priced bull in 2007 and they returned this year to secure another three bulls averaging \$6,833.

Stewart Anderson also bought three bulls for his nephew, Bernard from Clermont.

Another long-term supporter of the Ascot-Neimen sales is Charles Green from 'Moorabinda' Taroom and he didn't disappoint purchasing two registered and one herd bull to average \$7,833.

Other repeat buyers Mark and Bronwyn Schottelius from 'Merion' Dingo outlayed \$6,500 for a registered bull and Ray Kidd from 'Old Cashmere' spent \$11,000 on two bulls.

Dominant bidders throughout the auction were bulk buyers, Theo and Jenny Watson from 'Broadford' Hughenden who purchased seven bulls to average \$4,300 and Lance and Jenny Muller from 'Orchid Vale' Rolleston purchased six bulls to average \$4,200.

There were also some new faces in the crowd including first time buyers Russell Hay from 'Dunoon' Taroom who purchased two bulls to average \$6,250 and Ray Thompson from 'Glen Avon' Alpha who selected four bulls from the draft.

The successful clearance and sale average was thanks to a collection of other buyers including Rhonda Ryan from 'Banyula' Emerald, Arthur and Venessa Bambling from 'Penwhaupell' Gayndah, Jack Squire from 'Kia-Ora' Springsure, Darren Wyatte from Biloela, Russell and Helen Whiteman from Rolleston and the Tilley's from Beaudesert.

The day finished as it started with lengthy discussions about the rain and celebrations involved the obligatory Galloway shout at the Banana Pub.