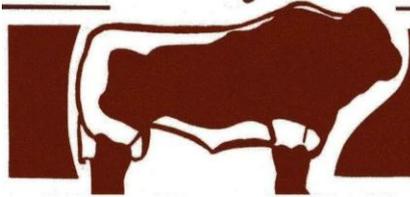


If you have a BEEF ..... make it



**PINZGAUER**

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**22 March 2013**

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Dear Breeder

The year as usual has passed quickly and we are coming up to our Annual General Meeting. By now you should have received details of the AGM and Council nomination forms. I strongly encourage members to nominate for Council. In the past, being on Council has presented difficulties for some members because of the time and cost involved in travelling to meetings. However, in recent years we have moved to telephone or "Skype" conferences for most Council meetings except the ones that occur in conjunction with the AGM. This has dramatically reduced the time and cost involved in being a Councillor.

I would therefore ask all members to consider contributing to the advancement of the breed by being more actively involved in the management of the Association. Even if you do not nominate, it would great to see you at the AGM and Council meetings on 26 May 2013 where you will get the opportunity to participate and get to meet and talk with other members.

### **International Pinzgauer Congress**

This is the year of the International Pinzgauer Congress which is scheduled to be held in South Africa on 5 September 2013. The South African Pinzgauer Association has organised a tour to coincide with the Congress. The tour lasts from 27 August to 6 September 2013. Details of the itinerary are available from the SA Pinzgauer association on the following website, [http://www.zz2livestock.co.za/docs/Pinzgauer\\_World\\_congress\\_tour\\_program.pdf](http://www.zz2livestock.co.za/docs/Pinzgauer_World_congress_tour_program.pdf).

If you have ever considered going to South Africa, this would be a great opportunity to combine sightseeing and cattle and be shown around by locals.

### **Pinzgauer Field Days**

As mentioned previously, we intend to start holding Pinzgauer Field Days. To ensure that these are a success, we need to carefully plan these days both in terms of how the days are conducted but also in terms of the information that we have available. We believe that hard evidence of the performance of Pinzgauers in areas of weight gain and yield is essential prior to any Field Days being held.

A group of us are planning to enter steers in a Feed Conversion Trial so that we can get current performance measurements in trials against a wide range of other breeds. I would encourage other members to do similar. The more that our animals are put in front of the Industry, the more success

we will have as a Breed. The program is being conducted by “The Land” newspaper and details are available on their website.

If any members already have similar results or other evidence that we can use to promote the breed, I would be extremely grateful if you could share it with us. Also, any suggestions regarding the conduct of field days would also be appreciated. The more input, the better the outcome.

### **Pinzgauer Genetics**

Over the past several years, there has been much discussion within the Association about Genetics. It is getting increasingly difficult to source quality new genetics from overseas. This is partially because of its scarcity and partially because of difficulty in importing it. Sourcing quality Fullblood genetics from Europe is becoming harder because of the cross breeding that has occurred. For example, in Austria, Pinzgauers have been crossed with Red Friesian to increase milk production.

There are several solutions other than importation that have been suggested. They include identifying high quality Pinzgauers from various breeders within Australia and working together on breeding programs using these animals to develop genetics that would be available to all members. Another suggestion is to selectively cross breed to develop the herd in selective areas.

These matters are a constant source of discussion within Council and I would like to broaden the debate by asking members to join in the discussion let their views be known.

### **Sponsorship**

The Association has again negotiated a sponsorship deal with a major insurance company. For any insurance policies placed with Ruralco Insurance through Rodwell & Co Pty Ltd of Kilmore, the Association receives a share of the commission. When any insurance become due, it may be beneficial to yourself and the Association to check with Rodwells to see how their premiums compare.

If insurances are placed through this broker, just make sure to mention that you are an APBA member so that the commission is steered in the right direction.

### **Photo Identification**

And finally, the Association is moving towards photo identification of registered cattle. This is done in a number of breeds where markings are unique. It is a simple process that provides for recognition of animals at a distance and eliminates the need to get animals into a crush just to positively identify them. The photo of each registered Pinzgauer will be printed on their Registration Certificate which can then be copied to take into the field when identifying animals.

The final logistics for photo identification is currently being worked out and I will get back to members with details presently.

Yours Sincerely



Raymond Price  
President