

TOTAL TIMES

Newsletter

Summer 2018/2019



Another successful shipment of Australian Heifers to Japan.



November 5th saw TLG export another consignment of Holstein heifers to Japan. The 747 plane load of 195 heifers were all pregnant to sex sorted semen from TLG Mohawk and TLG Manner, and are due to start calving March 2019.

Japan is a particularly challenging market - The Japanese government is eradicating Johnes disease from its cattle population. It uses a highly sensitive PCR test for this, and when used on individual animals is very difficult to achieve 100% clear results. TLG has had to develop a strategy to source JD clean animals, background them during the recent extremely dry season and achieve 100% pregnant to sexed semen. We also maintain our commitment to quality by buying well bred animals that will be highly productive in Japan.

Importing company Nosawa supply the pregnant heifers to Kumamoto Dairy Co-op located on Kyushu Island in southern Japan. The co-op has approximately 480 member farms with 41,000 milking cows. Drs Eze Boretto and Steve Williams were veterinary attendants on the flight and were very generously hosted by Nosawa in Kumamoto for two days with the opportunity to visit the co-op and some member farms. It was a great chance to view some of the 192 heifers exported to Kumamoto in a similar project 12 months ago that are currently averaging 28l/day approximately 4 months in milk.

The project took close to 12 months to complete from the point of sourcing heifers from JD score 7 and 8 properties in WA and SA to the point of export. The heifers had been synchronised for three AI rounds over a two month period and TLG expects KDC to receive a similar percentage of heifer calves to the last consignment where they had 93%.

Unlicensed bull collections at TLG.

TLG have the capacity to house your Unlicensed bull to maximise semen quality and quantity. In addition to paddock housing, at a set fee, TLG can offer indoor housing for those animals for which it is required. For more details on unlicensed bull collections talk to the team at TLG today...





A busy Equine season...

The equine season is in full swing, with over 300 active mares on the books, keeping four vets and five support staff very busy.

In addition to Dr Steve Williams and Dr Ezequiel Boretto, we welcomed back Dr Virginia Gonzales Somenzini who worked with us last season – Virginia has a special interest in obstetrics and neonatal care, and has assisted delivery in over 150 mares. We also welcomed Dr Daniel Carvajal all the way from Colombia, who has equine reproduction experience in both North and South America.

This season has seen a further shift towards breeding with frozen semen, with the variety and popularity of international sires on offer. We have also seen an increase in embryo transfer work, allowing elite performance mares to continue their competition or race schedules, or those mares unable to maintain their own pregnancies to produce offspring.



We see a variety of breeds through the centre each season, but this season brings a special challenge with the arrival of two Suffolk Punch donor mares. This breed was developed in the early 16th century and is one of the rarest draught breeds in the world. With only 440 registered animals left in the UK, the breed's status is listed as critical. We will be attempting to obtain embryos from these mares to support the preservation of this rare and critically endangered heavy horse breed.

Legendary Jersey sire Elton retired recently...

Long standing Jersey Sire Elton that stood in the recent years at TLG has retired. Affectionately known as "Mr Reliable", he was in his 15th year when he retired. Elton was proven by Central Sires Cooperative and sold exclusively through ABS Australia.

He was #1 Jersey bull in 2016 and still ranked at #2 in 2018. Elton was bred by local breeders Alan and Janine Carson of the Cairnbrae Jersey Stud, Irrewillipe East. The 64 year old Cairnbrae Jersey stud is home to the renowned Estelle family, the dominant Jersey family for high components, extreme type and 6000+ litre herds. Elton is a direct descendant of this outstanding family.

The staff at TLG who managed Elton for many years comment that "Elton will be remembered for his sensational temperament, great libido and striking Jersey characteristics. He outlasted all the bulls of his generation and if his longevity is passed on there will be many Elton daughters milking for a long time." In total Elton has sold over 150,000 doses of semen and was distributed internationally to New Zealand, UK, Ireland, South Africa and USA, impacting the Jersey breed around the world.



Mirand – a representation of Total Livestock Genetics’ genetic development culture.

The engagement of highly motivated Australian breeders that seek opportunities to develop international pedigrees of interest culminates in the introduction to the world market of Coomboona Zipit Mirand PP.

Mirand combines a homozygous polled genotype that carries the wild type red gene and also incorporates production, high type, mammary system and fertility, and illustrates what can be achieved through this type of strategy.

What does this truly represent about the culture of Total Livestock Genetics, as an agile business focussed on breeder motivation and customer satisfaction?

As an Australian based business, with geographical isolation maintaining high animal health protocol status, Total Livestock Genetics has played a pivotal role in the distribution of genetics around the world. Either through the contract collection, management and distribution for almost all the major genetic companies from around the world, through to the strategic selection of dairy genotypes that have world wide appeal, TLG is developing all facets of its animal genetic and reproduction expertise. This includes embracing the future of polled genes in consideration of animal welfare challenges, through to genomics, sexed semen processing and advanced sire and dam genetic analysis. Total Livestock Genetics takes pride in applying leadership and strategic technology engagement, to advance the opportunities for animal genetic development.

So, the Australian industry does play a role in the international genetic market. This is not new news as Ladino Park TALENT was collected and distributed from Total Livestock Genetics export collection facility – Australia’s first million dose semen collection bull exported around the world.

Currently TLG is also exporting live animals, dairy and beef bulls and heifers, as well as sheep and goats. Transport shipments, including air freight to a large number of Asian destinations, reflects the robust protocols and attention to detail to insure the compliant export of Australian genetics to international destinations.

And now Mirand is playing another role in opening further export opportunities for Australian developed high performing genetics into North America, European and Asian markets – truly engaging and advancing Australia’s participation in animal genetic development around the world



Welcome to our Summer 2018/19 Newsletter

Newsletter Like most years, 2018 has been full of challenges and opportunities. As our business continues to grow we have welcomed new staff and are very excited about our talented team of people entering into 2019.

This newsletter highlights our diversity, and some real synergies and cross benefits in our services — the use of our genomics testing is a good example influencing our bull team, export selections and really starting to validate the quality products we are offering by objective measurement of the progeny. We have clients using TLG semen and selling us the progeny for export which is a very exciting development we would like to develop further where possible.

Our experience and knowledge in biosecurity and animal health is helping our Japanese clients take delivery of Johnes free animals that have good productive potential.

Our sexed semen and conventional processing systems are producing opportunities for high quality small ruminant and equine product.

We are very excited about complementary emerging advanced breeding technologies to support and empower genomic selection and our focus in 2019 will be to continue to find those that will be useful to leading breeders in Australia.

We are very thankful to our clients ongoing support in 2018 and look forward to the New Year with eager anticipation.

Shane Ashworth
Managing Director, TLG

TLG always offering diversity to meet client needs..

The TLG team always enjoys a challenge or diverse project. Recently TLG undertook a small live export consignment of 10 Buffalo to Japan. This consignment of 1 bull and 9 pregnant females was undertaken for clients Roger and Sue Haldane, Shaw River Buffalo.

This is not the first consignment for Shaw River to Japan as the purchasers were return buyers which is a credit to the Haldane family. On arrival they were trucked to the clients existing milking buffalo herd.



Meet TLG staff member Faerlie Fidge.



Faerlie began her role at TLG in 2016 as a semen and embryo despatch assistance after being an AI Technician and in charge of semen stock control for local reseller business Nationwide AB. Less than 12 months in her role she was promoted to Semen and Embryo Despatch Manager.

Faerlie is married to her husband Matt and in her spare time enjoys spending as much time as possible renovating their house and going camp drafting.

What are the biggest changes in your role since you started at TLG? *The biggest change I have seen is the growth and demand for Fresh Sexed Semen and the infrastructure with the bull housing sheds and office renovations.*

In 3 words describe TLG?
Busy, diverse and evolving

What is your favourite TV Show? *NCIS.*

What is your favourite food? *Cheese*

Name 3 people you would have your ideal dinner party with? *David Attenborough, Brian May (from Queen) and Kristen Wiig 'cos she's bloody funny.*

What is your hidden talent? *House renovating and camp drafting*

Merry Christmas from TLG...

The management and staff at TLG would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year. We thank all our valued customers for their business and support in 2018 and look forward to working with you all again in 2019...

Our office will close for the Christmas break at 5pm on Friday 21st December and reopen on Wednesday 2nd January at 8.30am. For all urgent enquires over the Christmas break please phone TLG's General Manager Alex Robinson on 0427 556 755.



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