



NZ MINIATURE
HEREFORD BREEDERS
GROUP NEWSLETTER

2021 AMG time! Start thinking, start preparing



Don't forget to like us on

May 2021



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Welcome New Members

Dion and Natalie Ward Allen

Mason Stud

Hamilton

Graham and Liz Kent

Fern Creek Stud

Tauranga

AGM- AGM- AGM- AGM- AGM- AGM- AGM

It's time to start thinking AGM. Can you help? Can you come to the meeting.

Lets get together to make our future stronger.

We need everyone no matter if on the council or not.

Notice of

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 19th June 2021.....

PBB Board Room
NZ Hereford Assn
75 South Road
Feilding

Last year due to COVID 19 we were unable to have our meeting, this year we need to support each other and build our Miniature Hereford Breeders Group back to be better and stronger. Our Miniature Hereford Group was founded by very hard working passionate members, they have built a wonderful Group we are thankful for so we need to retain and grow.

Lets band together, come to the AGM and build support, strength, ideas and fellowship.

I will email more details a little later

There are five motels to choose from

South Street West Motel (next to PBBnz)

06 323 1811

Manfeild Park Motel

Cnr South Street and Fergusson Street

06 323 8761

Feilding Motel

7 Kimbolton Road

06 323 6837

Raceway Court Motel

Awahuri Road

R.S.V.P

Email me

vicky@rocklynstud.co.nz

Yes I will attend or no I can't attend

How many at the meeting (for catering Purposes) Lunch will be included

How many will attend dinner?
(at your cost)

[NZ Miniature Hereford Group Facebook Page](#)

Just so you know I paid to boost our site out to farmers, lifestyle farms , Urban farms and cattle breeders. This has increased our page likes to over two hundred likes./followers (only had around 50 before). People are now beginning to interacting on our page and this is desirable as people talk and share. If you are on **facebook** please like our page ,and make sure you share to all your friends as this will increase our likes. I know some don't understand the power of FB but I assure you this will and has increased the popularity of the breed which intern will create more sales.

From this page I have passed buyers on to various members which generated sales.



<https://www.facebook.com/Nzminis>



Newsletter articles....

We would love to have some articles from Miniature Hereford Breeders.....

Why not write us a small article about what you are doing on your farm. I know that we will all be interested and there is always opportunity to learn from others and their experiences.

It's weaning time!!

This is stressful on both cow, calf and us....how can we help? Below is a small article I read recently which might be of help.

Why is it so important to reduce weaning stress?

The process of weaning is very stressful on beef cattle. The separation of cows and calves, handling and processing, transportation, the time calves spend without feed and water during this entire process and sometimes through the public auction system, the mixing of unfamiliar animals and the introduction of novel feeds all impose an incredible amount of stress, on calves in particular, The consequences of all this stress are predictable. A high proportion of newly weaned calves get sick and require treatment.

What is the most stressful component of the weaning process?

Probably the main cause of weaning distress is the separation of the cows and calves. Cows and calves bawl and walk aimlessly for 3 or 4 days at weaning, not because they were transported, nor because their feed was changed. At pasture, bawling and walking help pairs to reunite, and these responses to separation are not easily extinguished. Though certainly familiarity with the feed itself can play a role, probably the biggest reason why newly weaned calves spend less time eating in the first week after separation is not because they cannot find the feeder but rather because they can't find their mother and because they are spending so much of their time bawling and walking in search of her.

How can the stress of separating cows and calves be avoided?

The key to reducing this stressful aspect of weaning is in how the cows and calves are weaned and separated.

One alternative is **fenceline contact weaning** where cows and calves are separated into directly adjacent pens or pastures. Granted, you should have secure fences to do this. Careful behaviour observations and published scientific research proves that cattle bawl and walk less when weaned with fenceline contact. Another research study even showed fenceline calves had a higher average daily gain than calves separated far away from their mother.



Weaners love their breakfast of multi nuts and hay



When I wean I always feed them multi nuts with molasses, they are like a drug and once those little babies get the taste they will run to you.

Before I wean, I am feeding baylage and hay out to their mums so they already know that is the standard diet and a routine is set.

Because we have only 25 acres I cant take the mothers far enough away so they can still hear each other. However they do settle after a few days.

I keep the weaners in a small well fenced paddock then start moving them to other paddocks after about 5 days.

I stand at the feed trough so they have to come to me, I don't leave till they are all happy eating and settled with me there.

Although they will never be pets (and I don't want pets to be honest, as they can get quite bolshy and try and bunt) they are quiet and easy to handle.

When I get visitors I take the visitors to the paddock with the weaners in so they get used to other people.



Abe looking after his little babies.



DNA Testing

Don't forget to have your bulls and this seasons bull calves DNA tested. You won't be able to register any progeny without your DNA. All bulls that are sold need to be SNP tested to verify parentage .

SNP tested and SNP sire verified (you can only SNP sire verify an animal if the sire of that animal has as SNP profile. This may mean requesting DNA from Massey to be sent to Neogen)

Why not consider having your females done also. While you still have a small herd, this can be very useful if you find yourself unsure of who the sire was at any stage in the future.

NZHA recommend SNP testing DNA. The NZHA and NZMHBG will advise you how to do this

Autumn jobs around the farm

- Pregnancy test your cows
- Wean your calves & make sure they have had all their 5N1 injections
- Organize any Autumn Fertilizer application



The sizes of the Miniature Herefords

Regular size Herefords can reach 165cm tall, where Miniature Hereford is a lot smaller. They range between 106cm through to 117cm in height.

Miniature Hereford Cattle are measured at the hip using a frame score.

Example Frame score – 2yr old Cow

<u>Frame Score</u>	<u>Height at Hip</u>
2	117cm (46")
1	112cm (44")
0	107cm (42")
00	102cm (40")
000	97cm (38")
0000	92cm (36")

Don't forget this is important and is a requirement.



John and Gaye Long have **for sale** 10 bull weaners, some can be castrated
Also 10 weaner heifers
The average weight of the weaners is 131kg , weight Sunday 18th April.
Call John on 068795942



**FOR
SALE**

Jim and Bev Haliburton have **forsale**

The cow is three year old , is not Reg. has reared a calf, is not in calf.
There are three yearling steers (2 in photo) looking at \$800.00 + G.S.T.
There is a yearling heifer, is Reg, \$800.00.
Phone 068778252



For sale

Sharon Obrien has these bulls for sale Phone **07 5420061**

Mobile **0272000949** for more details.



A few photos from our members farms.



Penny, Bob & Milo live happily at Lakeview



Above, are happy moo loos at Riarmas Miniature Stud.

Below, Yearlings at Emerald Springs Stud

