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Photo Credit: Montana Red Devon

2022 RED DEVON USA WEBINAR SERIES

Fall Line Up

"Getting to know Thousand Hill Acres"

We will be interviewing Mark Reed and discussing what this years Red Devon USA annual show will entail. Mark will discuss the bloodlines on his farm that will be on display, as well as the speakers and presentations that will be in the education portion of the show. He will be discussing some obstacles, as well as successes he has experiences so far in 2022. Mark will help familiarize us with the Walhonding, Ohio area.

"Getting the most out of your farm - Pasture Poultry"

Steve Montgomery of Lamppost Farms and Christian Ramsburg of Harmon Creek Farms, LLC will discuss pasture poultry. They will discuss how pasture poultry has helped make their farm more profitable. They will discuss basics of how to get started in chicken and turkey production as well as the final sale of product. Steve and Christian will discuss profitability, labor, and materials needed to begin grazing poultry.

"Genetics & Bloodlines of foundational Red Devons part III"

This webinar was our best attended in the fall of 2021 and all the breeders in attendance were left wanting to hear and discuss more. If you missed part 1 & 2, check out YouTube and get ready for a great sequel. Jeremy Engh, of Lakota Ranch will moderate, Jerry Engh of Lakota Ranch & special quest, Vic Edwards from Australia (world's premier cattle expert) will recall some of the foundational Red Devons herds were built on in USA.

"Getting the most out of your farm - Pastured Pork"

Bob VanKirk of 4 Seasons Cattle and special guest will discuss pastured pork. They will discuss how to get started raising pork. Topics will include housing, fencing, feed, breed, buying feeders or farrowing them, labor, materials, and etc. Bob is a novice pig producer and will discuss hurdles and successes he has faced. Bob's guest will be an experienced pork producer that can provide a longtime prospective of raising pork. They will discuss profitability and marketing of pastured pork. They will discuss future goals they are working towards in the pastured pork industry. If you want to get the most out of the acreage on your farm multispecies is the best way.

Follow www.reddevonusa.com for updates, dates and registration.

DEVON USA

Devon USA is the official publication of Red Devon USA. It exists to inform, educate, and unite Devon breeders across the United States and the world.

RED DEVON USA

Purpose: To maintain an accurate pureblood Devon registry, to preserve the purity of the breed, to disseminate general information to the membership, and to recruit new members through general promotional activities.

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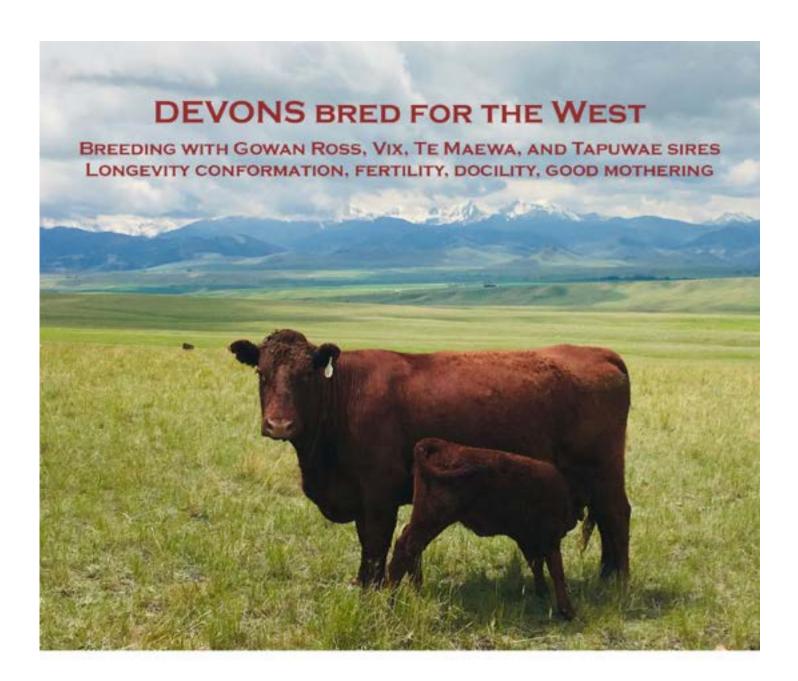
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LETTER FROM THE **PRESIDENT**

by Steve Montgomery



To Red Devon USA Members and Breeders,

Hello once again from Ohio, home of this year's Red Devon USA Annual Meeting and Show! It has been my privilege for the past three years to serve on the Board (two

as President) with a great group of colleagues that I call friends. This Board, which meets monthly, has been moving together toward the same three goals: Improving the Red Devon Cattle of North America; adding value to your membership through meaningful education, effective communication, and high quality administrative services; and, improving the Association's financial status for long-term success. And, in my opinion, this

year's Board of Directors is doing all three of these things very well. Thank you to them for all their hard work to serve the Association.

As you will see in October, the Annual Meeting and Show will be quite the event. Mark Reed, Thousand Hill Acres LLC owner, Board Member, and Event Host, will partner with the Riverview High School FFA in Warsaw, Ohio to carry out our first in-person National Show since October of 2019. Details about this year's event are in this issue. And, in addition to having 75 young farmers introduced to Red Devon cattle at the event, the FFA students from Riverview High School will receive a financial boost through providing meals, hay for cattle, and a venue fee. An interview with Allyssa Mullett, the school's FFA Director, is one of the articles for you to read.

Another highlight in this magazine is an article by AJ ONeil, Devon breeder, butcher, caterer, and Board member. AJ will be leading a demonstration on cutting up a hind-quarter of beef to show the quality of grass only Devon Cattle on the table. He will then be preparing the beef for Saturday evening's Annual Meeting and Dinner. This is a "Can't Miss" workshop and experience.

Also on the horizon is the Celebration of 400 Years of Devon Cattle in North America. Our celebration will begin with the 2023 Annual Meeting and culminate with breeders from around the world coming to North America for the World Devon Congress Tour. Anne Derousie, Devon breeder, Board member, and magazine editor, has written an article covering aspects of the history of Devon Cattle in North America. In addition, Jeremy Engh, Devon breeder and former Board member, has written an article on more details of the history or Devons and

the upcoming World Devon Congress tour that is scheduled for the Spring of 2024.

One last thing is a big "Thank you" to our advertisers and sponsors of the magazine and the Annual Meeting and Show. Without your help, we would not be able to produce this publication or host an in-person event. Please take the time to connect with the many people who have advertised their farms and cattle in this magazine.

I am excited to see you (and your cattle) at the Show in October! Bring a friend to introduce them to these amazing animals we get to steward daily.

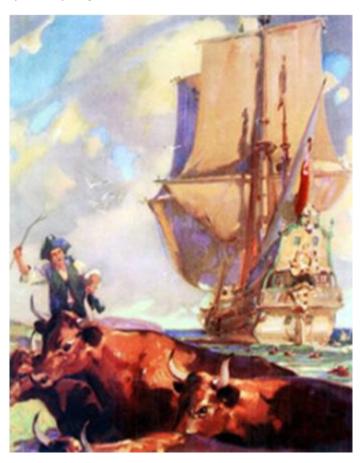
Thank you for the privilege of serving,

Steve Montgomery President, Red Devon USA



HISTORY OF DEVON CATTLE IN THE USA

by Jeremy Engh



In this article, I will attempt to tell the History of Devon cattle in the U.S. and the breeders which have owned them, improved them, and contributed to their preservation. Please forgive any omissions and inform me of such so that I may improve this piece as time moves forward.

Devon cattle records maintained by the Devon association date back to 1623/1624 when the pilgrims came to the U.S. The pilgrims sailed from Plymouth, on the south coast of Devonshire, England to the New World and named their settlement in North America the Plymouth Colony. On the ship Charity, along with the crew, were three Devon heifers and a Devon bull which were sent from Devonshire to Edward Winslow, the agent for the Plymouth colony. Their immediate value was as draft animals. Cattle from Devonshire had long been recognized in England for their speed, intelligence, strength, willingness to work, and ability to prosper on coarse forage, in a wide range of climates.



1640's William Pynchon becomes first Meat packer in American history making corned beef from Devon stock.

In later years, other cattle were imported and contributed to the American Devon, which developed as the ideal multipurpose breed. None could surpass it for draft work, milk and beef carcass quality developed on poor and average forage.

These records are the start of the U.S. Devon herdbook and correlate with Devon records in England, which date back to 23 B.C. Records were kept in England on the cattle maintained in this country until 1851. Between 1800 and 1851, Americans received 15 shipments of Devon from England.

1817 First recorded exportation of pure-bred Devons from England from Thomas Coke to Robert Patterson (6 heifers and 1 bull (Taurus 197)).

HISTORY OF DEVON CATTLE IN THE USA



John T. Davy

Records for Devon as a purebred breed began in 1851, when John T. Davy of Rose Ash in North Devon published the first volume of Davy's Devon Herd Book. The Davy family, along with the Quartly family from the same area, had been breeding pure Devon for at least 150 years prior to this publication.

In 1855 the first American Devon herd book in America was started by Horace Mills Sessions (completed in 1863), the last volume of this series appeared in 1879.

The 1868 American Devon Herd Book, Vol. 2, was published in Springfield, Massachusetts. This herd book contained the perfect description of Devon Cattle.

"The late experience of the breeders of Devons only confirms their former opinion of the excellent qualities of the breed, for the three grand objects for which meat stock are kept, namely, milk, work, or beef, and their adaptation to many sections of our country, in preference to any other breed; also that they will produce as much milk, work, or beef, from the food consumed, or on a given quantity of land, as any other breed...The only objection ever presented to the breed, is "they are small;" but we can keep more of them, and that on shorter pastures and coarser food."



Artwork by: Joan Harris

In 1884, the copyright for the book was acquired by the Devon Cattle Breeders' Society in England and continuous records have been maintained by it in England ever since. Devon Cattle from England were selected for their hearty forging ability, their rich milking ability, their docility, and their strength; they were brought to America to be used for milk and beef production and as oxen in the settling of the American frontier.



QUEEN ANN'S HURON.

320
in 1863. Bred by E. G. Faile, West Farms, WestCo., N. Y.; sold when a calf to Ezra Cornell, Ithaca,
sold September, 1865, to Walter Cole, Batavia, Geno., N. Y.; sold March 28th, 1871, to James BuckZanesville, Ohio; slaughtered June 13th, 1874. By
703. Dam Queen Ann 2314 by Tecumseh 1165, 2d
nny 174, imported

Queen Ann's Huron (reg#1014)-as pictured in 1st American Devon Record

James Buckingham, a Devon breeder in Zanesville, Ohio, began publication of the American Devon Record in 1881. The first four volumes were published under his direction, bringing Devon registry records up to May 1st, 1887.

In 1884, American Devon Cattle Club records were started and a continuous program of importation of top bloodlines lead to a resurgence of the quality of Devon Cattle as we know them today. Mr. Buckingham, with the aid of several other prominent Devon breeders, was instrumental in organizing the American Devon Cattle Club on March 26th, 1884, at a meeting in Pittsburgh's East End Hotel. The American Devon Record became the official herd book of the Club, which published six volumes. Like

HISTORY OF DEVON CATTLE IN THE USA

most other livestock registry associations in the United States, the American Devon Cattle Club found the cost prohibitive to produce a limited edition herd book. Volume 10, the final volume of the American Devon Record, was published in 1947. Duplicate registration certificates are maintained in the breed's registry office for verifying the ancestry of registered animals and to protect the genetic integrity of the Devon breed in the United States.

1913 First polled sport born in the herd of Ralph Coffing and sold to Case and Elling, "Napolean 8902" (Dam: Alpharetta H13661 / Sire: Leo H8564)

1915 "Missouri 9097", the second polled sport is born in herd of Case and Elling (Dam: Linnie Stump 14464 / Sire: Madero 8708) Missouri was first sport to sire registered calves.



After the death of L.P. Sissons, secretary of the American Devon Cattle Club, in 1916, the club was reorganized and incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as the American Devon Cattle Club,

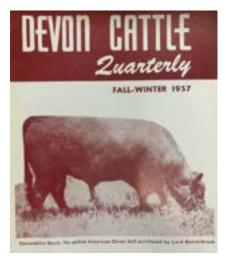
Inc. This action was accomplished at a meeting of the incorporators held on July 24th, 1918, at the American House in Boston. The corporation operated under that name for 53 years until it was changed to the name,



Devon Cattle Association, Inc., at an annual meeting of the membership in Springfield, Massachusetts, on January 22nd, 1971.

Between 1929 and 1978, 37 bulls and 81 females were exported from England to the USA.

In 1952, a small group of breeders decided to form a separate association for dairy cattle and maintain triplepurpose stock. This American Milking **Devon Association** registry represents a gene pool of triplepurpose cattle able to be productive under minimal management



conditions and in a harsh environment. -In 2022, Devons still participate in the Oxen pull competition in New England states.

Devonshires Mark P13666 owned by Fred Wyvill(7knolls farm), bred by Leo Parker(Devonshire) exported to England and bought by Lord Beaverbrook(Fishleigh)

On October 11th, 1978, a Devon Cattle Association, Inc. was formed as a Missouri not-for-profit corporation. A merger of the old Massachusetts

Corporation into the new Missouri Corporation was approved by the respective memberships on November 19th, 1978. The merger became effective January 1st, 1979.

The premier breeders in the early days of the DCA were Pete Bostick in South Carolina (pictured on the followoing page with his wife and Kenneth Hinshaw), Senator Wayne Morse whom had herds in both Maryland and Oregon, Ron Anderson and Tom Harrison in Eagle Point, Oregon. There were also a number of breeders in the deep south where most of the show competition was held. Dr Stewart Fowler, a geneticist at Texas A&M University, became the secretary and registrar for the breed. (1980) Dr Fowler recognized the high



Pete Bostick pictured to the left with his wife and Kenneth Hinshaw standing to his right

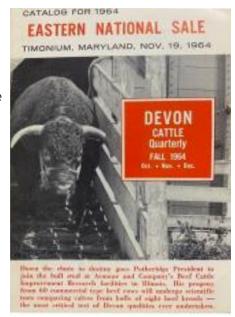
quality of Devon carcasses when working as a packer buyer. Dr. Fowler would implement the 205 day weight and other performance recording applications for the breed.

From 1950-1980 bulls were imported from Great Britain to expand the genetic profile of existing Devons in the US. The most influential Devon bulls were Wadhayes Sunshine, Potheridge President, and Fishleigh Famous. Potheridge President became a certified meat sire, a designation given to bulls that produced

30 choice carcasses from progeny in a controlled test.

The Potheridge President bull was used in New England and at Tomotley's Plantation to create the President line of Devons.

In 1976 the bull Lufton Guardsman



was imported from Andre Mitiziack's herd in Great Britain, and the bull Fishleigh Fieldsman from the same herd but different breeding was imported by Fred Wyvill in the state of Maryland. The Fieldsman bull was subsequently sold to Glen Jones in Oklahoma and a son of this bull (Lakota's King Henry A176) would later have semen exported to Australia and sons sold to Canada and Mexico. A brother to the Fishleigh Fieldsman bull, (Fishleigh





Famous) was supreme champion of all bulls in Great Britain at the Royal show and subsequently showed up as grand sires in the pedigrees for Devonacres main herd sires, (Ellel Calgary and Cascade Mr. Ideal). In 1980, the World Devon congress was started. Naturally the first host country was England, the home of the Devon. In 1984, The World Devon Congress would come to the U.S. for the first time, Effingham Plantation, Hibbard Cline, Lyons Ranch, Burst Ranch, Irma Lampton, and Berry College, Georgia were the stops. Berry College hosted the congress. Things were looking up at the time of the congress, but by the years end several major breeders had left the cattle business for personal reasons unrelated to cattle and with the industry's shift towards feed lots and yield grade pricing schemes, the Devon struggled to fit in.

Grain was cheap and cattle could be fed in confinement adding a pound of meat to an animal for less than .23 cents/pound. Feedlots placed a premium on larger framed cattle that would continue to grow before fattening which was profitable with the cheap price of grain, Continental breeds became profitable to the feedlots and medium and smaller framed animals with lower maintenance cost tended to fatten too quickly in feedlots. However, the relatively

smaller framed animals because of their superior feed efficiency, high meat quality, and lower maintenance cost would soon find their niche in the grass finished beef world.

> The years that followed were tough for the Devon and many breeders resorted to crossbreeding as the Devon cross seemed the only way to make money. Breeders numbers would diminish, as did registrations.

In 1990 the Devon herdbook records were manually transferred into a computer-based system by breeders Jeremy Engh (Lakota Ranch) and Richard Evans (Dove Farm).



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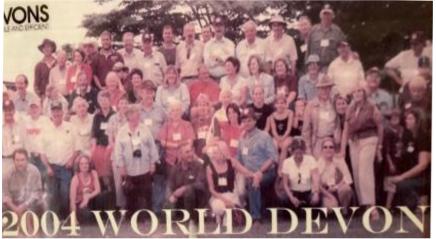
4 Season Farm LLC Web: 4SeasonsCattle.com

Bob & Diana VanKirk

Email: GrassFed@4SeasonsCattle.com

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WHAT IS A **DEVON?**



In 2000 the Devon was well on its way, having been glorified in the grass-fed beef world, the prices, number of registrations and membership were all rising rapidly.

In 2004 the U.S. hosted its second World Devon Congress. Vista Knoll Farms, Carlton Ranches, J&S Red Devons, Lakota Ranch, Mt. Vernon, Stratford Hall, Hancock Shaker Village, and Watson Farm were visited on the tour.

Also in 2004, imported semen from the Rotokawa herd in New Zealand was brought to Lakota Ranch, this blood line was the first Devon import into the U.S. in over 20 years.

In 2005, the membership of the Devon Cattle Association voted to rename the association, The American Devon Cattle Association, and was reincorporated in the state of Virginia.

In 2006, two events of great significance occurred, a group of breeders left the American Devon Cattle Association (ADCA) and formed what would be called the North American Devon Association (NADA). This is not the first time this has happened, but it is the first time a group of this size had split the breed. Also in 2006, the first National Devon show took place in this country in over 25 years. It was held in Kearney, Nebraska and judged by Dr. Allen Williams.

In 2014, the RDUSA DNA policy was voted into place; this policy requires

parent verification on all animals submitted for registration going forward. RDUSA was the first Devon organization to require this and the first major cattle breed in the U.S. The Veterinary Genetics Lab at thl/e University of California Davis was contracted to maintain these records and do this work.

In 2019, RDUSA moved its registry to the National Center for Beef Excellence, NCBE.

In 2024 RDUSA, AMDA, and Devon breeders from around the globe

will gather in the U.S. for our 3rd World Devon Congress, the first here in 20 years and the last for 20 years. We will celebrate 400 years of Devon history in the U.S., their numerous contributions to our way of life and quality of life, and the birth of the cattle industry in the U.S.

Please join us, more information about the World Devon Congress or about Devon cattle can be found at:

> www.reddevonusa.com www.milkingdevon.org www.devoncattle.com



J.Engh, C &M Trantham, V. Fortenberry, B. Grant



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ASK THE VET: ADVICE FROM DR. DARON JONES, DVM

by Dr. Daron Jones, DVM



Fellow Devon breeders and enthusiasts, greetings from the upper east side of the country! Here in Central Michigan we are surrounded by farms and cropland stretches on and on with the typical beauty of agriculture. This

past spring was a wet one for us. Cooler temperatures and lots of early rainfall left outside calving lots in difficult shape. Consequently, producers calving in March and April had plenty of mud to contend with. This made calf health a challenge.

Healthy calves start with healthy cows. Cows with good body condition are an important part of prevention. So it follows that good hygiene, quality colostrum and lots of milk are the primary drivers of good health in calves. Unfortunately, sometimes Mother Nature throws us a curve, and when it does, it often presents as scours (diarrhea) in calves.

As an ambulatory livestock veterinarian, I commonly deal with young calves that are scouring. There are multiple different pathogens that cause scours, but the root cause typically goes back to the primary drivers of calf health, namely, good hygiene, quality colostrum and lots of milk. A typical presentation includes calves from day 1 to 4 weeks of age. Calves are often running a

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CAUTION: FEDERAL LAW RESTRICTS THIS DRUG TO USE BY OR ON THE ORDER OF A LICENSED VETERINARIAN.

ACTIVE SUBSTANCES PER ML:

Zinc	60	mg/mL
Manganese	10	mg/mL
Selenium	5	mg/mL
Copper	15	mg/mL

OTHER SUBSTANCES:

Chlorocresol 0.1% w/v (as preservative)

DOSAGE RECOMMENDATIONS:

CALVES: Up to 1 year	l mL/per 100 lbs. bodyweight
CATTLE: From 1-2 years	1 mL/per 150 lbs. bodyweight
CATTLE: Over 2 years	1 mL/per 200 lbs. bodyweight

Selenium and copper are toxic if administered in excess.

Always follow recommended label dose. Do not overdose.

It is recommended that accurate body weight is determined prior to treatment.

Do not use concurrently with other injectable selenium and copper products.

Do not use concurrently with selenium or copper boluses.

Do not use in emaciated cattle with a BCS of 1 in dairy or 1-3 in beef.

Consult your veterinarian

CAUTION:

Slight local reaction may occur for about 30 seconds after injection. A slight swelling may be observed at injection site for a few days after administration. Use standard aseptic procedures during administration of injections to reduce the risk of injection site abscesses or lesions

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Meat 14 days. Milk zero withdrawal.

DIRECTIONS:

This product is only for use in cattle.

MULTIMIN® 90 is to be given subcutaneously (under the skin)

It is recommended to administer the product in accordance with Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) guidelines. Minimum distance between injection sites for the MULTIMIN® 90 product and other injection sites should be at least 4 inches.

Inject under the loose skin of the middle of the side of the neck. Max volume per injection site is 7 ml.

injection in middle



	4 weeks before insemination					
	at dry-off					
CALVES	at birth					
	at 3 months and/or weaning					
HEIFERS	every 3 months –					
	especially 4 weeks before breeding					
(program gives planned dates that can be varied to suit management programs)						
DOSAGE TABLE						
ANIMAL WEIGHT	CALVES	CATTLE	CATTLE			
(l bs)	UP TO 1 YEAR	1 - 2 YEARS	> 2 YEARS			
	1 ml/100 lb BW	1 ml/150 lb BW	1 m l /200 lb BW			
50	0.5 ml	-	-			
100	1 m l	-	-			
150	1.5 ml	-	-			
200	2 m l	-	-			
300	3 ml	-	-			
400	4 m l	-	-			
500	5 ml	-	-			
600	6 m l	-	-			
700	7 ml	-	-			
800	-	5.3 ml	-			
900	-	6 ml	-			
1000	-	6.6 m l	5 ml			
1100	-	-	5.5 ml			

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4 weeks before calving

4 weeks before calving

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mild to moderate fever, manure ranges from runny to pure liquid, calves are weak and lethargic, and they don't nurse well. Calves nursing off dirty teats in bad weather are at a much higher risk for developing scours due to direct ingestion of the pathogens. Some of the primary causes of scours in newborn calves are Rotavirus, Coronavirus, E. coli, Salmonella, cryptosporidium and clostridium. Typically, first line treatment will include antibiotics and supportive fluid care. A simple manure sample can be collected and sent to the lab by your veterinarian. Once you know what you are dealing with you can get more targeted in your approach and prevention.

When dealing with scours in calves the disease ranges from mild to severe depending on the calf, how many of these calf diseases it may have at once, and which ones. There is no one size fits all to calf scours, but knowing a little bit of the science of the products you use can go a long way. Scours in calves lowers the pH in the body resulting in acidosis. Acidosis causes mental depression resulting in dumpy calves which further decreases their desire to suckle. Knowing this, you can see how calves can quickly start to spiral downhill. Fluid therapy, ranging from oral electrolytes to IV fluids, should be used to counteract the dehydration and ought to be formulated to increase the pH in the body. Beware, that some calf electrolyte solutions are actually acidifying and will cause further depression in calves. Calves that appear sick with scours will often be given an antibiotic that gets into the intestinal tract. Make sure you are using one that treats intestinal pathogens, not all antibiotics do this well. Calves running a fever may also benefit from a dose of anti-inflammatories. Remember that NSAIDs, as in people, can cause GI irritation, so use sparingly when GI upset is already present. There are too many different products on the market to address them individually, so talk to your local veterinarian to set up a protocol that's right for you, and don't

be afraid of lab testing. It can go a long way to manage for a good outcome in sick calves.

There are also vaccines on the market that are designed to be given to pregnant cows to pass scour antibodies via colostrum to the calf. If despite your best efforts you end up with a scour outbreak in your calves there are also a few products on the market that are designed to be given directly to calves. These products range from oral antibodies to supplements that decrease the severity of disease and limit additional shedding in the environment.

Work with your local veterinarian to test manure samples and set up a protocol for your specific situation. Early testing and treatment of scours is important to manage for a brighter outcome!

Finally, in the words of the famous Irish Blessing,

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

the rains fall soft upon your fields,

and until we meet again,

may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

If you have a livestock veterinary question you would like answered please submit your question to daronjonesdvm@gmail.com. A question will then be selected to answer in the column. Please be advised this does not constitute a valid Veterinary Client Patient Relationship (VCPR), and is not a substitute for your local veterinarian.

Dr. Daron Jones is a large animal veterinarian and raises Devon cattle with his family on Devon Valley Farms in Hubbardston, Michigan.



400™ ANNIVERSARY OF DEVONS IN NORTH AMERICA: 1623 OR 1624?

by Anne Derousie

400th Anniversary of Devons in North America: 1623 or 1624?

"The past is a foreign country. They do things differently there."

-- L.P. Hartley

400 years is a long time. Cloudy at best, lost in the mists of time, steeped in legend, distorted by our imaginations, opinions and perspectives of the past and present, capturing historical happenings over such long spans of time can be difficult. Such are the problems of sorting memory and history. So how do historians understand the past and put the pieces together? Briefly, they look for and analyze sources of information and compare them to each other. There are two categories of sources: primary and secondary.

"History is a story about the past that is significant and true."

Primary sources can include letters, legal documents, maps, drawings, photos, recordings, art work and three

dimensional objects whose author or creator had a direct connection to the event or experience. An example would be a letter from a person who was present at the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

Secondary sources include books, oral presentations, reports, letters, photos, maps, drawings, art work and three dimensional objects whose author or creator is removed from a direct connection to the event and often involves opinions, analysis and interpretation of primary sources. An example of a secondary source would be a book written about the San Francisco earthquake in 2006.

Some of the questions that a historian would ask of a source might be: When was it created and by whom? Who was the intended audience? Does the creator have a bias? What is it? What was the purpose, context, and motivation? Is the information valid and accurate? Is there independent evidence to support it?

So, what sources can we examine and analyze to determine exactly when the first Devon

cattle set foot on North American soil? Where should we look for those sources? Perhaps with the people who brought them? Every Devon breeder knows that Devons came here with the Pilgrims to Plymouth Colony, in 1623, on the ship *Charity*. Every Devon website recounts the story. So, let's see what lies beneath the surface.

Who were the Pilgrims and what brought them to Plymouth Colony?

The Pilgrims were part of an English religious group called Separatists who broke away from the established Church of England. The Separatists formed their own congregational churches because they wanted to return to the simpler religious practice of the early Christians. But the Church of England was the official established religion of England, headed by the monarch and rejecting it was a dangerous thing to do. The Pilgrims had to get out of Dodge, so in 1609 they moved to Leiden in the Netherlands where they were free to practice their religion.

However, that move did not solve all of their problems. They found it difficult to make a living in the Netherlands and their children were taking on the Dutch language and customs. The Separatists feared they were losing their English language and culture and so, in 1620, they moved again.

A group of wealthy London merchants called the Merchant Adventurers, were willing to finance their move to Plymouth Colony in North America. In exchange, the new colonists would send raw materials (fish, timber and furs) to their sponsors. It was to be a money making proposition. The Pilgrims left England in the ship *Mayflower* and landed in Cape Cod in November of 1620. They suffered a high mortality during that first winter, but were reinforced with more settlers and funding in subsequent years and were able to establish a permanent settlement. Financially they were not so successful and the settlement was a losing investment for the Merchant Adventurers.





Edward Winslow

Among the leaders of the Plymouth Colony were Governor William Bradford (1590-1657) and Edward Winslow (1595-1655), a merchant and promoter of the colony. Much of what we know about the early years of the colony comes from the writings of these two, along with surviving letters between colonists and investors. It is these sources that speak to the arrival of the first cattle from Devonshire.

Probably the most important primary source that we have about the early experiences of the Pilgrims at Plymouth is found in William Bradford's Of Plimoth Plantation. This manuscript was written by Bradford over a period of years beginning in 1630. It is a detailed history of the colony between 1621 and 1647. After Bradford's death, the manuscript remained in the family until 1775 when its last known location was Old South Church in Boston. Presumably taken by British occupying forces during the American Revolution, it disappeared and resurfaced in England in the library of the Bishop of London in 1855. After a long campaign for its repatriation, the manuscript was returned to Massachusetts in 1897 and is today housed at the State Library of Massachusetts.

It is from Bradford's manuscript and accompanying letters on the *Charity* between

the Pilgrims, the Merchant Adventurers and others that historians first became aware of early Plymouth Colony history including their importation of cattle. So, what did they say that is of interest to Devon breeders?

Edward Winslow was the agent and promoter of the colony who went to England aboard the ship Charity in the Fall of 1623 and returned in March of 1624. 1624 you say! Yes. Without going into great detail, the ship's date of arrival in Plymouth Colony could not have happened at a more confusing time for those of us living in the 21st century. Two calendar systems were in use in the European world in the 1600s, the Julian that is now defunct and the Gregorian that we use today. There were two major differences in the calendar systems. Only one is important to our discussion. The Julian calendar year begins around March 21st. The Gregorian calendar year begins on January 1st. The Charity landed in Plymouth Colony "sometime in March." So what year was it?

Whenever a ship would sail to or from England, it would be loaded with letters to various people. Remember, these were the days when long distance communication was accomplished only by transportation. Gov. William Bradford sent a letter to the Adventurers dated September 8, 1623 stating that "We have sent unto you one of our honest friends Edward Winslow, by name, who can give you better and more large information in the state of all things than we can possibly do by our letters." Winslow wrote to his uncle Robert Jackson on October 30, 1623 stating "I left in health at Plimoth in new England the 10th of September last past, myself being now at London upon the business between the Plantation there, and our company of Adventurers & the Councell here and am to returne againe about December next."

Edward Winslow went to London to plead with the *Adventurers* to give them yet again, more goods, supplies and skilled laborers to boost the condition of the colony. A difficult ask considering that they had yet to see a farthing in return on their investment. One of the things

he came to plead for was some cattle. Draft was their principle need. Winslow noted in his promotional book of 1624, Good Newes from New England "I think if we had Cattle to till the ground, it would be more profitable." He also noted that it was little use to come up with money making projects that involved hauling timber or other heavy objects around, "If we had not cattle to fetch it there." Bradford, in his letter to the Adventurers, that traveled to England on board the Charity, expressed three reasons why the Plymouth colonists needed cattle: it would be a "greater ease both for tillage of ground and caring of burden," it would "make victuals both more plentiful and comfortable," and, after a while, they would have surplus animals to sell to others who needed them. It was Winslow's job to convince the *Adventurers* to provide the cattle.

James Sherley, one of the *Adventurers* who supported providing more goods for the Pilgrims, stated in a letter sent back to Plymouth Colony on the *Charity* "It hath pleased God to stir up the hearts of our Adventurers to raise a new stock for the setting forth of this ship, called the Charity...though accomplished with very great difficulty." The letter was dated January 25, 1623[24] (a convention used to note that the year could be stated using two different calendar systems.)

A note to James Sherley from his nephew Emmanuel Altham dated May 1624 informed him that "It please God that your ship called the Charity arrived in Plymouth at New England about five weeks after her departure from the English coast." And then there is the quote that you are all familiar with, jotted down in an entry in his manuscript *On Plimoth Plantation* by Governor William Bradley for the year 1624.

"He [Mr. Winslow] brought three heifers and a bull, the first beginning of any cattle of that kind in the land..."

So if the primary sources written by the Plymouth Colonists and their associates in England firmly established that the Charity sailed to New England with cattle in 1624, how and when did it become the convention in agricultural circles to consider the year to have been 1623?

Historians have consistently reported the primary sources accurately, but Agricultural and Livestock experts have not. Out of twenty-five secondary sources I examined to determine the date of the first cattle to arrive at Plymouth, sixteen were written by historians and nine were written by animal scientists or livestock specialists. These authors spanned the 19th and 20th centuries. The historians cited the date as 1624 and all but two of the livestock experts cited 1623.

These livestock experts were well-known and respected professionals including M.E. Ensminger (Iowa State,) Beef Cattle Science (1951); Charles S. Plumb (Ohio State,) Types and Breeds of Farm Animals (1906); Carl W. Gay (UMinn,) The Breeds of Livestock (1920); and Harlan Ritchie, (Michigan State); Breeds of Beef and Multi-purpose Cattle (2009). But they weren't experts on Plymouth Colony and they weren't experts on little known outdated calendars. They consulted a source they didn't fully understand and came to an inaccurate conclusion. When Devon breeders looked back to the origins of Devon cattle in North America, they relied on the livestock experts they trusted to tell them the story. And that is why, everywhere you look in the Devon world you see 1623 as the date Devon cattle were first introduced to North America.



BEST GOURMET BEEF ON GRASS

2022 NATIONAL DEVON MEETING October 20th - 22rd and Show

Thursday October 20th

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm: Cattle Arrive

Location: River View High School,

26496 St Rt 6r0 N Warsaw, OH 43844

4:00 pm: Vet Arrives for Cattle Inspection

Open Social at Thousand Hill Acres LLC, owner Mark Reed 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Location: 26527 State Route 206 Walhonding,

OH 43843 740-819-2016

Dinner on your own

Friday October 21st - River View High School

7:00 am -7:45 am Registration, Coffee, Donuts, Refreshments

8:00 am - 8:15 am Welcome & Introduction" Steve Montgomery-RDUSA President

8:15 am - 9:00 am "Ask the Vet" Dr. Daron Jones, DVM,

owner Devon Valley Farms, Board Member RDUSA

9:00 am - 10:00 am "The transition from owner/breeder to Seedstock Producer"

An interview and discussion with Vernon (Shorty) Hochstetler,

Schwarzerde LLC, Judge RDUSA 2022 Show

10:00 am - 10:15 am

"Why Devon" The Breed designed by centuries of Grass Farming 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Jeremy Engh, Lakota Ranch

10:30 am -1130 am "Selling Gourmet Devon Beef"

Panel Discussion:

Christian Ramsburg, Steve Montgomery, Mark Reed

1130: am -1:00 pm Lunch Break, Grass fed, gourmet Devon Burgers and more!

View Show Cattle

Donation to River View FFA Suggested

1:00 pm - 2:45 pm "Cutting Gourmet Grassfed Beef"

Live Demonstration by AJ Oneil, O'Neil's

Quality Devons, Board Member RDUSA, 3rd generation meat cutter/butcher

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm Return to Thousand Hill Acres LLC

3:30 pm - 6:00 pm "Pen Evaluation"

Shorty Hochstetler and Jeremy Engh

Saturday October 22nd

10:00 am 1:00 pm Herd Discussion at Thousand Hill Acres LLC - Mark Reed,

2:00 pm "Show Results"

at Riverview High School Judge Shorty Hochstetler

and Christian Ramsburg Show Manager & RDUSA Board Member

6:00 pm Dinner with Red Devon Gourmet Beef - National RDUSA Meeting

Location TBD

Subject to change, follow www.reddevonusa.com for details and to sign up!

Meet Judge Shorty Hochstetler:

Vernon (Shorty) Hochstetler is the founder of Schwarzerde LLC

We've been educating ourselves for over 20 years, within the teachings of some of the best Geneticists and Grazers in America and from abroad! I have had the opportunity to be mentored by people like Gearld Fry, Johanne Zeitsman, Gabe Brown, Gene Meitler, Dr. Allen Williams,

Dr. Gordon Jones, Greg Palen and many more successful ranchers too numerous to mention.

We operate a beef cattle Seed-Stock business with our farms being 100 percent grazing and/or hay production. We currently operate the cow/calf side of the business on our own farm, with the finishing cattle being contracted out onto other farms.

We supply seed-stock throughout the USA and Canada. With our satisfied customer base growing for our grass phenotype bulls, even in fescue country... the "Schwarzerde Bull Test" was launched several years ago, with the assistance of Dr. Allen Williams.

This is an all-forage test with a fairly intense selection process, designed to benefit and unify our breeders' network.

Schwarzerde LLC also has established a network of producers throughout the community as well as surrounding areas, who follow our "no grain ever" protocol, while jointly marketing the bulk of the grass finished beef through the Seven Sons Family Farm business.

My experiences would lead me to believe, that the Dr. Jan Bonsma type of cattle, tend to lead the way in being some of the most profitable cattle in the world. We practice linebreeding, and shy away from selecting for extremes while selecting for hormonally balanced cattle that are adapted to their environment. I enjoy sharing our farming experiences, and hope to help other farmers enhance their profits.

Contact Information:

Vernon (Shorty) Hochstetler 3735 S 00 EW LaGrange, In 46761 (260) 463-8613 Ext 1





MEET THE HOSTS:

THE BEST GOURMET BEEF ON GRASS 2022 NATIONAL DEVON MEETING AND SHOW

The 2022 National Devon Meeting and Show will be held Thursday October 20 - October 22, 2022. Some of our sessions will be held at Mark Reed's Thousand Hill Acres LLC. From 4:00 - 6:00 pm there will be a social hour at the farm followed by dinner on your own.

ALLYSSA MULLET - RIVERVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

On Friday we will meet at River View High School, for a day of educational programming hosted by Allyssa Mullet who is a fulltime teacher in Riverview Agriculture Education Department where she is an advisor to the FFA program and manages and does much of the work on the schools 265-acre farm. At 3 PM we will return to Thousand Hill for an evaluation of cattle with Show judge Vernon (Shorty) Hochstetler and Jeremy Engh.

Saturday morning, we will meet at Thousand Hill for a discussion and observation with Mark Reed about his herd of Devon cattle followed by travel to Riverview for the Show results. Dinner and Annual Meeting will be at 6:00 pm at a location TBA.

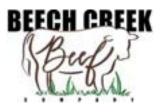
MARK REED - THOUSAND HILL ACRES, LLC

Mark describes his farm and how he started raising Devon cattle.

"I am Mark Reed, owner of Thousand Hill Acres LLC, located in the hills of beautiful Coshocton County, Ohio. Though I wasn't raised on a farm, I have been farming nearly all of my teen and adult life. I helped out on various farms until 2012 when I purchased this my own tract of land. We began looking for grass-fed genetic type cattle when I unexpectedly came across a guy who was

custom grazing a group of pairs for Jeremy Engh of Lakota Ranch. The guy grazing them told me to research Red Devons and give him a call. Naturally, I did some googling then decided to take a look at the group here in Ohio. I liked what I saw and bought a small group of high percentage Devon bred cow/calf pairs. I initially grazed cattle here on the home place and quickly realized that in order to meet demand I needed more land. Since 2012 starting with about 45 acres of pasture, I have been able to lease approximately 250 additional acres for grazing and about 120 acres of hay ground."

Mark suggests that while you are in Coshocton County, you check out some of the sites before you go home. Historic Roscoe Village is a restored 1830s period canal town with a number of novelty shops and restaurants along with costumed interpreters in restored historic buildings. The Apple Butter Stirrin' Festival will be in full swing from 10-6 daily while we are there. If that doesn't excite you, there is always Battle Ax Throwing! Check out https://www.visitcoshocton.com/ or www.roscoevillage.com



Heidi Leitzell Beech Creek, PA 570-660-7367 haleitzell@gmail.com



Greg Stuber Howard, PA 814-883-9322 greg@polecathollowfarm.com





A CONVERSATION WITH ALLYSSA MULLET:

RIVER VIEW HIGH SCHOOL HOSTS RDUSA CATTLE SHOW AND EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

by Anne Derousie

Riverview High School in Warsaw, Ohio will be co-hosting our 2022 National Devon Meeting and Show October 20-22. In a conversation with Allyssa Mullet, coordinator of the project, she explains how she became interested in agricultural education and describes the facilities and programs at Riverview high school.

Where did you grow up?

Life started in Geauga County, Ohio where I grew up on a small dairy farm. I was involved in many youth organizations including 4-H and Jr. Grange. As life continued - my family made its way to Coshocton County when I was in the 5th grade. We continued to have a small farm with a variety of animals. I continued to be involved in 4-H, Jr. Grange, Jr. Leaders, FFA and several other youth organizations. I developed skills and knowledge in leadership, responsibility and work ethic.

What childhood experiences influenced your career choice?

My career choice of Agriculture Education was shaped and molded over years of influence from leaders in my school, church,

family and the organizations I was involved in. I honestly spent most of my childhood and most of my high school career on a pathway to become a veterinarian. I have always loved animals - and growing up on a farm- I had a lot of experience with animal production and animal health. It wasn't until my senior year that I felt the call to pursue a career in Agriculture Education. I realized that I also had a passion for agriculture education, increasing agricultural literacy and advocating for an industry - and FFA organization - that I care deeply about.

How did you come to teach at River View High School?

The River View Agriculture Education
Department has held a special place in my
life ever since I came into the classroom as a
freshman at River View High School. It is what
was part of my decision to pursue my career
in agriculture education. After attending
college and having the opportunity to teach
at another Ohio school district - a position
at River View opened up and I was excited
to apply and honored to take the position.







Charles & Martha Trantham Lenoir's Creek Devon

Red Devon Cattle For Sale Canton, NC

Charles Trantham (828) 734-7118

www.lenoirscreekdevon.com

tranthamsdevon@cbvnol.com

Charles and Martha Trantham, owners of Lenoir's Creek Devon, in Canton, NC, have decided it's time to downsize, due to our health and age.

We are going to get back down to just the main farm, here at the house.

Where did you go to college and what was your degree and major?

I attended Wilmington College in Wilmington, Ohio. I majored in Agriculture Education and Production Agriculture.

When did you start teaching?

I began teaching in the fall of 2011 at New London High School and then was hired at River View High School and began in 2012.

What department do you teach in and what courses do you teach?

Allyssa: In short - I teach in the "Ag Department". The official name of the department is the Agriculture and **Environmental Systems Career Tech Education** Department. I teach an introductory course titled Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources - which explores the basics of a variety of agricultural topics. I also teach Animal and Plant Science, Agricultural and Farm Business Management, Mechanical Principles, and Livestock Selection and Management course - which takes a deeper dive into animal production, health and nutrition. As a student progresses through high school they take the AFNR course, then Animal and Plant Science. They take Livestock or Mechanics as Juniors and as Seniors they take business management. Some students also as seniors can choose to take a capstone course which for us - is an Agriculture Work Based learning option - where after they are finished with all of their courses for the day - they go to work. The goal each year is to have between 70 and 80 students in the program.

Tell us about the FFA Program at your school.

The River View FFA was formed in 1965 with the establishment of the River View Local School District. This program has a long standing tradition of excellence and success. The FFA is an integrated part of our Agriculture Education program. All students that are in the program are FFA members.

The FFA organization provides additional opportunities and resources for students to grow and succeed. The mission of the FFA in short is to provide opportunities for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agriculture education. We work to implement the mission of the FFA into our classes and events that we do as a program and chapter. Students develop leadership skills through participating in workshops, events and through leadership positions. They have the chance to grow their abilities both within teams and as individuals as they compete in competitions and develop their supervised agricultural experiences. They are exposed to a variety of career opportunities and given the chance to develop skills and knowledge for a range of careers - both related and not related to agriculture. We visit colleges and trade schools and have company representatives speak with students so that they can see the opportunities for the future and work to set goals to achieve them.



Please join us September 17th for the 7th Annual UMDE event!

The Upper Midwest Devon Exchange is a group of Devon breeders dedicated to providing top quality Devon genetics selected for performance on grass

Abiding Acres Farm

David Fell david@abidingacresfarm.com 262-949-5777 Delavan, WI www.AbidingAcresFarm.com

Join us at Rolling Meadows in Bellevue IA for a day of education and cattle evaluation featuring Steve Campbell and forage specialist Daniel Olson.

Rolling Meadows Devon

Jamie Hostetler Jamie@sbc2010.com 815-718-1100 Bellevue, IA

Eckstein Devons

Sheldon Headings sheldon@sbc2010.com 815-499-1332 Bellevue, IA

www.UpperMidwestDevon.com

Tell us about the farm at your school. What livestock and crop activities do your students engage in?

How many animals of each type, how many acres, building capacities and type etc. The River View School farm was first established in 1965 with the formation of the Walhonding Valley Farmers. This group is dedicated to the support and growth of the River View Agriculture Education Department and providing resources and support for the land lab. This group is still the guiding entity for the opportunities provided on the River View School Farm. The board of trustees meets throughout the year to discuss the production practices and management of resources.

The River View School Farm is approximately 265 acres, approximately 130 acres of crop ground and 100 acres of pasture/hay ground, 15 acres of woodlands and 15 acres for buildings and other miscellaneous areas. The enterprises and how they are run and managed have evolved over the years. As we look at what our community needs, our students needs and what interests they have - we reshape and adjust how we manage our resources and enterprises. All of our decisions are based on the importance of learning about production agriculture - no matter if you live on a farm or not. Everyone can learn something from our program.

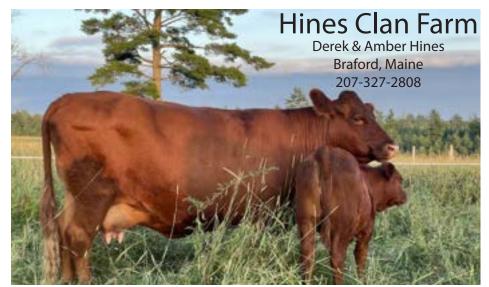
We put out about 60 acres of corn and soybeans each year. We run research test plots for corn each year. Students are involved in the preparation, planting, scouting and harvesting of the crops at varying levels of involvement. We also put out about 10 acres of vegetable / specialty crops - depending on the interests of the students. This year we have about 5 acres of potatoes and 5 acres of mixed vegetables including tomatoes, peppers, and squash.

Students learn about different production practices at different levels of production. For example - We discuss how to plant a small garden plot for a family - all the way up to large scale production with irrigation and plastic mulch. Students start many of the plants that are grown in the garden in our greenhouse and see the full cycle from seed to harvest.

As far as livestock goes - we have three main enterprises. We raise broiler chickens in late summer. Many FFA members partner together to do the daily care and maintenance for the birds. They then have the opportunity to take one of the birds to the county fair to show it and sell it at the junior fair auction. The extra birds are processed at a certified processing plant and sold to the community.

The next enterprise is our swine enterprise. This is a farrow to finish operation. This opportunity allows students to see all of the aspects of raising swine. Students learn

production techniques such as genetic selection and breeding techniques. Students give input on the boars that are used and often help to artificially inseminate the sows. This spring we had 8 sows farrow. During the farrowing season - students often get firsthand experience with the farrowing of the piglets. It is always a good day in class to watch the little piglets be





born. Some pigs are marketed at weaning - or shortly afterwards as show pigs for FFA and 4-H projects. Many members partner together to raise their pigs on the school farm in a similar fashion as the market broilers - raising them together and then exhibiting them at the county fair. Some pigs are retained as replacements and some are finished out for freezer pork.

The final enterprise is the cow-calf herd of beef. We currently run between 35 and 40 head of primarily Angus and Sim-Angus cross cows. We utilize the herd to teach beef production practices including animal behavior, reproduction, nutrition and general management. As part of the Beef Enterprise - hay is also made for the herd.

Both the swine and beef herds are a collaboration with additional community partners that help to guide management decisions, provide resources and provide financial support for the enterprises. As with all Agriculture - there is more than one way to do things. We often use students' prior knowledge and experience to drive discussion on the management practices that we have in place on the school farm. Some students have similar enterprises at their own farms - and we use that experience to find what works best for each operation.

Hosting our RDUSA annual meeting and show is a major undertaking. What opportunities and challenges do you anticipate? What do your students think about this undertaking?

I think that hosting the Red Devon USA Annual Meeting and Show is a tremendous opportunity for students. Students will learn how to organize and carry out an event of this size. There are many moving parts to putting on such an event and students will be the backbone of it all. I think this is a very important skill to practice - because it is something that can be transferred to a variety of applications in the future. Secondly, students will be learning and expanding their knowledge of beef production - emphasizing the benefits and opportunities within the Red Devon breed.

Not only are students helping to plan and organize the event - they will also be participating in the workshops and presentations that will happen throughout the event. When we voted as an FFA Chapter to host the event - students were excited to be involved in such an important event. As we continue to make plans, I am seeing that many students are even more excited and eager to participate. I am excited to give the students the opportunity to network with producers from across the state and country that have a passion for agriculture and are proud of the work they put into their own operations. I hope that the students are inspired by the workshops and use this as a chance to set goals for their own operations - or even start a new one. I am looking forward to seeing all the planning and preparation come together.

Are there other people at the school whom you would like to acknowledge as contributing to hosting this event?

I would first like to thank Mark Reed - Red Devon Representative for reaching out to us and making us part of the event. I would like to recognize the Walhinding Valley Farmers for their constant support and guidance - not just for this event - but all the things that we do. I would like to thank the River View Local Schools Superintendent - Mr. Chuck

Rinkes and the River View School Board of Education for their support of our program. Most of the credit should go to the students that are making it happen. Without them - it would not be possible. I may be stirring the ship - but they are the wind behind the sails. They have already put in a lot of time planning the event and will continue to put time into implementing such plans.

Thanks Allyssa, those of us at RDUSA are also looking forward to this event as well and want to thank you for all the wonderful work that you and your team do and for hosting us in October.





MEAT CUTTER MEETS DEVON

by AJ O'Neil

"Did I get all my meat back from the butcher?" This is the question that Gale O'Neil (owner of O'Neil's Quality Foods) and A.J. O'Neil (son of Gale,) butcher and owner/operator of O'Neil's Quality Devons will answer during their cutting presentation at this year's Annual Red Devon meeting in Ohio on Friday October 21,2022. Gale and A.J. combine for 64 years of experience working in a Slaughterhouse and processing beef, as well as many awardwinning, value-added specialty beef products.

By way of background, my father has worked in the meat industry since the fall of 1975. His start came from working on my grandfather's dairy farm. On my Grandpa Clyde O'Neil's farm when a cow would stop producing milk he would pen the animal up, separating it from rest of herd. If resources allowed, he would then put her on a heavy grain ration to fatten her up for beef. There are many farmers in our area that still use this same finishing practice. They grow crops such as soybeans, corn, and oats to feed to their animals to sell at the auction barn, for conventional beef prices. If you ask them why they feed grain/chop to their beef 60-90 days before slaughter, most

will respond "because that is what my father or grandfather always did." The problem is that they lack context. While this may be a good method for putting backfat on beef, the steaks of this animal will typically lack marbling, which is linked closely to tenderness. I think the main reason most farmers were pleased with their cull cows, after they put backfat on them, was because they would grind the whole beef into hamburger. Adding any fat to a beef that is all ground into burger would help to improve the overall taste and moisture level. Hamburger from a cull cow that is 93-95% lean would be dry and crumbly when cooked, but after fattening the cow, you could expect to have hamburger that is 85% lean. Most consumers will find the 85% lean burger to be more desirable and easier to work with when making meatloaves, meatballs, and hamburgers.

Personally, when I finished college and came back to the family business, I became interested in raising my own beef cattle. At our store, O'Neil's Quality Foods, we begun having issues sourcing beef for our customers that wanted freezer beef, so I saw an opportunity. I began raising dairy steers

on a no roughage ration. I bought 1-2 day old bull calves, and fed them milk replacer, starter feed, corn and soybean pellets as they aged. Daily, I found myself bedding them and feeding them, which consumed a lot of my time. I realized I had no control over any of my inputs and was struggling to truly enjoy farming. I fed \$3 - \$7 a bushel corn and bought calves from \$75 - \$400 for 80# - 100# calves. In just a few years I felt I had ridden the roller coaster. My business was susceptible to industry fluctuation, but my customers and I were very satisfied with the finished product. I was afraid to sacrifice quality, but knew I wanted to go in a different direction in cattle farming. That is when I began my journey to researching cattle breeds.

I completed a beginner's beef cattle online course through Penn State. This program provided insight as to the financial side of farming, as well as setting up necessary protocols, such as vaccinations. I became really interested in the industry and began to do my own research at our processing facility. I began asking every farmer that came in with a beef carcass how they were raising their animals? How long did it take to finish? How long were they feeding grain? Were they using implants to accelerate growth? Around the same time, I was catering an event at a local wedding venue, where we were grilling fresh fish, steaks, and serving sides for the wedding party and guests. I had a gentleman by the name Steve Montgomery come over and introduce himself and compliment us on the food we cooked. Steve and I discussed beef, and he told me about a breed I had never heard or seen before. RED DEVON CATTLE. I shifted my research focus onto Devon cattle, but there wasn't anyone around me that I knew was raising them. I attended a grazing conference and heard Gerald Fry speak about the breed and met a Devon breeder Dave Collier, who was working the Red Devon booth. I gathered more information and literature about the breed there. Dad and I visited a few farms and tried some Devon steaks to find out if the

breed had quality meat. Our first observation of the particular sirloin steak we purchased was that it was too lean, and we were sure it would lack tenderness. When we grilled and ate the steak, we were pleasantly surprised at the flavor and tenderness of the meat. We later cooked hamburger, and the flavor was unlike any burger I had tasted before. I compared it to venison burger, but not as strong and pronounced as venison. The Devon burger was much more moist than lean straight venison. My father was taken back 40 years when he tasted it. He said, "I haven't tasted meat like that since I was a kid." We purchased a few more cuts, including a sirloin steak and burger, from another producer. We chose the sirloin because we wanted to see if there was tenderness in a cut of meat other than the loin muscle. We were again pleasantly surprised with the result, and my father was in disbelief that he had never heard of, or tasted, any Devon beef in all his years of processing.



MEAT CUTTER MEETS DEVON

Over time and through practice, we have realized why the Devon meat has so much more flavor than beef we previously sourced from feedlots: partially because of the breed, and partially the management. Animals that feed on high grain/starch diets lack flavor profile. The choice beef from feedlots is tender but bland. Now, having processed over 50 Devon carcasses, including those sourced from other Devon breeders, and many of my own, we have learned that the breed itself is tender, flavorful, and has ability for choice and prime marbling. Most of the variance that we see with Devon carcasses largely comes from the producer's management. I have tried to finish grass fed beef with commercial animals from various producers, but I have found that my purebred Devon carcasses that have a hanging weight ranging from heifers at 600 - 700# and steers at 650 - 750# are far superior to any other grass finished beef I have processed.



This year at the Red Devon Annual meeting, in Walhonding Ohio, my father and I will display our 64 years of combined butchering knowledge. We will be processing a whole hind quarter of beef as part of the weekend education. I will be bringing a steer that weighed 1070# (see photo above) live weight on May 12. I will have pictures of what this animal looked like at that weight as well as pictures of the animal before going to slaughter. We will be breaking the animal





into 3 main primals, with the tri-tip roast removed. We will be weighing and measuring individual muscles with bone in, as well as after we remove the bone. A handout will be provided so you can chart our findings and use it as a reference for later. The reason we will measure the individual muscles cut into steaks is so you will know how many steaks to expect, depending upon how thick you process your beef. Most of my customers that purchase freezer beef, prefer as many steaks as possible so we cut them about ¾ of an inch thick, while Lakota Ranch generally prefers their steaks 1-1/4 - 1-1/2 inches thick. We will process these individual muscles down as far as we can to add value to the producer and consumer. An example would be the Boneless Top Sirloin. We will remove the Tritip Roast and make the sirloin boneless. We will measure the length of the muscle. We will then seam out the Top Sirloin Fillet and the Petite Sirloin Steaks. We will cut those steaks until we get into the heavier gristle part of the steak. We will then remove the gristle and cut the rest of meat in squares for shishkabobs. We will discuss seasoning options for the shishkabobs, packaging opportunities, marketing of cuts, yield loss, expected price increase to compensate for trim loss. We will be open to questions throughout

the whole presentation. The second part of our presentation, we will be preparing the steamship round for the cooker. We will be tying the round a certain way, so the meat is to cook uniformly and no pieces get over cooked. We will be injecting and rubbing the round for flavor and moisture retention. We will discuss different smoking methods, cooking times and temperatures, as well as how to cut the meat after its cooked, to not ruin the finished product. The members in attendance will then have a chance to see the meat being prepared after cooking and have it for the awards banquet Saturday night. This is sure to be a fun filled great weekend. My father and I are looking forward to meeting all the fine folks in the Red Devon community and look forward to hearing some of your experiences. If you have any questions in advance, feel free to reach out to me via email and I'll be happy to respond to you. See you all in October. 📆



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If you would like to be listed on the Red Devon USA Breeder's List, contact the Red Devon USA office at (816) 652-2220 or visit www.reddevonusa.com for an application.

The Legendary Sires from Lakota Ranch



LAKOTA'S KING HENRY A176

Reg# USDM44104 DNA# DCA 1191

bwt +1 wwt +25 ywt +45

Avg days to finish 680

\$35 / Straw for purebred use



LAKOTA'S RED DUDE A113

Reg# USA203 DNA# NC 43898

bwt -4 wwt +20 ywt +40

Avg days to finish 714

\$35 / Straw for purebred use



LAKOTA'S BUCKEYE P60

Reg# USDM22126 DNA# DCA 18

bwt -6 wwt +22 ywt +36

Avg days to finish 695

\$35 a straw



LAKOTA'S H48

Reg# USDM21991 DNA# DCA 272

Homozygous polled A2 / A2

bwt -6 wwt +14 ywt +20

Avg days to finish 724

\$50 a straw

www.Lakotareddevons.com

Proven seedstock with stellar, prize-winning bloodlines

With expert advice from around the world, we developed our English herd with a twofold vision: preservation of English DNA and provision of options for new genetics to our American colleagues.



Churchill: Horned Red Devon H-USN1984
Born: Oct. 16, 2011, DNA: NDA591 (PV)

— Forde Abbey Leveller-GBRM8837
Cutcombe Jaunty H-USN1237

— Cutcombe Severn 11th-GBRF116053

— Rotokawa 688/95-USDM22162
Tilbrook Cash Tiller 9th EX95-H-USN1236

— Tilbrook Cash Tiller 4th-GBRF91331



Essington: Horned Red Devon H-USA1125
Born: Nov. 25, 2015 DNA: DCA1134 (PV)

— Cutcombe Millenium H-GBRM9977
Ashott Barton Millenium-Falcon H-USN1644

— Champson Tulip 46th H-GBRF94254

— Essington Southern Comfort 2nd-GBRM3067
Essington Buttercup 165th H-USN1647

— Essington Buttercup 139th-GBRF98358



Highwayman: Horned Red Devon H-USN2519
Born: Nov. 2, 2012, DNA: NDA724 (PV)

— Cutcombe Millennium H-GBRM9977
Ashott Barton Millennium-Falcon H-USN1644

— Champson Tulip 46TH H-GBRF94254

— Langworthy Moor Bandlerer 2ND-GBRM15
Goldings Norah 21ST H-USN1645

— Clampit Norah 150TH -GBRF93253



Prince: Horned Red Devon D-USA3896
Born: Oct. 18, 2018, DNA: DCA2202 (PV)

— Forde Abbey Leveller - GBRM8837
Cutcombe Jaunty H - USN1237

— Cutcombe Severn 11TH - GBRF116053

— Champson Hercules - GBRM4018
Ashott Barton Tulip 12TH - GBRF130536

— Ashott Barton Tulip 34D - GBRF4044



Thistle Hill Farm ... doing what comes naturally www.ThistleHill.net

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