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Bonnydale Black Simmental makes \$20,000

By KANE CHATFIELD

BLACK Simmental yearling bulls reached \$20,000 among solid clearances and values at the 29th annual Bonnydale Black Simmental and SimAngus on-property yearling bull sale at Bridgetown on Monday.

The Introvigne family takes pride in presenting a sale catalogue of yearling bulls with greater evenness and depth, year-on-year and this sale was no exception.

The impressive sale team of 75 extensively measured, well bred and grown early 2024 born yearling bulls represented the stud's modern breeding philosophies, shrew selection processes and ongoing investment in industry leading genetics.

Enjoying the relief from recent hot conditions, another large crowd attended this year's sale to inspect the team of 13-14 month old homozygous polled and black DNA parent verified yearling bulls in the large viewing pens and later savoured the Bonnydale team's delicious hospitality.

It attracted new and return buying interest from WA and across the Nullarbor, while the Elders South West network was in strong numbers.

The wider South West region was well-represented on the buyer register which extended to the South Coast and Central Wheatbelt and interstate to New South Wales and Victoria.

The sale was interfaced on AuctionsPlus, attracting 1977 pre-sale catalogue views, resulting in 34 registered buyers and 58 viewers logging on.

There were three active online bidders, placing 10 bids across four bulls, with two bulls selling to New South Wales and WA online stud buyers.



With the \$20,000 top-priced bull Bonnydale Top Gun V211 (by Bonnydale Top Gun T150), at the 29th annual Bonnydale Black Simmental and SimAngus yearling bull sale at Bridgetown last week were Pearce Watling (left), Elders, Donnybrook/Bridgetown, Rob Introvigne, Bonnydale stud, top price bull sponsor Jarvis Polglaze, Zoetis and Connor DeCampo, Bonnydale stud. Bonnydale Top Gun V211 was purchased on AuctionsPlus in partnership between the Hopkins family, Wormbete Black Simmental stud, Illabo, New South Wales and the Patterson family, Bullock Hills Black Simmental stud, Woodanilling.

The first half of the catalogue provided plenty of highlights and despite there being no shortage of interest at the sale, bidding competition plateaued as the sale wore on giving, buyers of all budgets the opportunity to secure quality bulls at value, while a few bulls were overlooked.

When the 75th and final bull had its time in the sale ring, Elders stud stock auctioneer Nathan King and the Elders network sold 64 Black Simmental and SimAngus bulls (85 per cent) at auction for an overall average of \$8594.

While the result was generally in line with the majority of other single vendor bull sales this selling season and clearances almost on par, averages were back on last year's record-breaking sale result where a new \$41,000 stud record price was set.

The overall average was down \$1806 compared to last year's sale where 65 Black Simmental and SimAngus bulls sold at auction (86pc) for an average of \$10,400.

Broken down into breeds, the team of 59 Black Simmental bulls saw 55 bulls (93pc) sell under the hammer for an average of \$8964, back \$2330 on last year's sale where 51 of 56 bulls (91pc) sold at auction for an average \$11,264.

The draft of 16 SimAngus bulls turned out to be good value buying, with nine bulls selling at auction for a \$6333 average, down \$810 on last year's sale where 14 of 20 bulls sold for an average of \$7143.

The sale kicked off on the team of 59 Black Simmental bulls and while top-end stud and commercial buyers had numerous bulls marked out with a few ticks, Bonnydale

Top Gun V211 in lot two took this year's top price choccies when it was knocked down to AuctionsPlus for \$20,000, sold in partnership to the Hopkins family, Wormbete Black Simmental stud, Illabo, New South Wales and the Patterson family, Bullock Hills Black Simmental stud, Woodanilling.

The 731kg young bull was a February 1 born bull, sired by Bonnydale Top Gun T150 (by Bonnydale Dividend R43) and a Gibbs 7382 Broad Range daughter, Bonnydale Ms Desi S10.

The average birthweight bull matched an impressive phenotype with strong IGS estimated progeny differences (EPDs) performance ranking in the top 5pc for yearling (YWT), top 10pc weaning weight (WWT), top 15pc milk, top 4pc mature weaning

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weight (MWWT), top 10pc for both terminal indexes, top 5pc carcass weight (CW) and top 4pc rib eye area (REA).

Mr Hopkins viewed the Bonnydale sale bulls last month and said Top Gun V211 kept catching his eye and stood out.

"Phenotypically, he was extremely appealing which was backed up by a great set of data," Mr Hopkins said.

"Very balanced bull, structurally correct with even fleshing ability."

He said he has progeny by the bull's sire Bonnydale Top Gun T150 after purchasing semen from Bonnydale a couple of years ago.

"Rob and Mike Introvigne are very good to deal with and are doing a great program at Bonnydale," Mr Hopkins said.

"We know what the bull's sire is doing first hand and it's always good to bring in complete outside genetics on the maternal side."

"We are excited to pick him up and the fact that I already have the genetics, I wanted to spread it out a bit and its terrific Bullock Hills came on board with us."

Indicative of the catalogue depth was the sale's \$19,000 second top price coming to fruition for lot 27 Bonnydale Top Gun T150, when knocked down to second year Bonnydale buyers Lindsay and Kathryn Honey, LB & KR Honey, Mundijong.

The late February born bull was genotypically very close to the top-priced bull being a Top Gun T150 son out of another Gibbs 7382 Broad Range daughter, Bonnydale Josie S51.

The classy 714kg youngster also recorded extremely strong EPD growth performance ranking in the top 3pc for WWT and YWT, top 4pc



□ Connor DeCampo (left), Bonnydale stud, Bridgetown, Elders Bunbury branch manager Deane Allen, buyers Kathryn and Lindsay Honey, LB & KR Honey, Mundijong and Rob Introvigne, Bonnydale stud, with the \$19,000 second top-priced bull Bonnydale V332 (by Bonnydale Top Gun T150).

MWWT, along with top 1pc stayability, top 15pc API and TI indexes and top 20pc fat.

Mr Honey said the Black Simmental bulls were used over some of their second calves and older cows from their self replacing Coonamble blood Angus breeding herd "to get more beef and kilos into the sale calves".

"Our first Black Simmental calves are calving beautifully now, the calving ease is exceptional," Mr Honey said.

"We are paid by the kilogram – we typically sell direct to the feedlot as weaners averaging 350-360kg, but we're hoping to get closer to 400kg."

Mr Honey described their new yearling bull as a lovely soft skinned bull with exceptional figures.

"We have beautifully docile cows which is typical of the Coonamble bloodline," he said.

"Excellent docility, feet and

early growth is critical to us when selecting bulls."

The sale's \$18,000 third top price was recorded into the clerking sheets on three different occasions.

First to pay was annual buyers of multiple bulls at the top-end of the market, the Carroll family, Tirano Farms, Nannup.

It operated on the majority of the sale's top-priced bulls and finished with three Black Simmental bulls, averaging a healthy \$14,667.

The Carroll's top bid went to Bonnydale Gold V1 in lot four, a powerful soft skinned early January born bull by TJ Gold 274G and a Bonnydale Kruiser daughter Bonnydale Josie N127.

The 736kg bull recorded curve bending data with top 25pc birthweight and top 10pc calving ease (CE) matched to top 10pc WWT, top 5pc YWT, top 15pc MWWT, top 2pc TI and top 25pc API indexes.

The Carrolls paid the sale's next highest price of \$16,000 for their next bull with outstanding curve-bending performance.

The 702kg Gibbs 7382 Broad Range son ranked in the top 10pc for CE, top 3pc BW, top 10pc WWT, top 4pc YWT, top 2pc milk, top 5pc

MCE, top 1pc MWWT, top 5pc docility, top 2-20pc for all indices, top 15pc CW, top 4pc fat and top 20pc marbling.

Pearce Watling, Elders Donnybrook/Bridgetown, representing long-time interstate Bonnydale buyers of more than 15 years, RW & KA Newnham, Newblax Black Simmental and SimAngus, Euroa, Victoria, paid \$18,000 for their new stud sire.

Bonnydale Broad Range V5 was an early January born bull by Gibbs 7382 Broad Range and a Bonnydale Quaker daughter, Bonnydale Lil Dessi T4.

The 706kg below birthweight bull recorded strong spread of data including top 25pc CE, top 20pc WWT, top 10pc YWT, top 25pc MWWT, top 3pc docility, top 10-30pc all indices, top 25pc CW, top 20pc REA, fat and marbling.

Les and Elaine Brookes, LE & EF Brookes, Yornup, collected two Black Simmental bulls and also paid to \$18,000 for their top selection in lot 12, Bonnydale Tombstone V185.

The 704kg late January born bull was sired by Bonnydale Tombstone T191 (by Bonnydale Rock n Roll) and

BONNYDALE BLACK SIMMENTALS & SIMANGUS ON-PROPERTY YEARLING BULL SALE

(Under the hammer results)

	offered	sold	top	gross	average
Black Simmental bulls	59	55	\$20,000	\$493,000	\$8964
SimAngus bulls	16	9	\$12,500	\$57,000	\$6333
Total	75	64	\$20,000	\$550,000	\$8594



□ Lucky lot buyer sponsor Tony Murdoch (left), Virbac, buyer Alf Carroll, Tirano Farms, Nannup and his son Adrian Carroll, Elders Real Estate, Bunbury. The Carroll family purchased three Black Simmental bulls at the sale for an average of \$14,667 paying to a top of \$18,000 for a TJ Gold 274G son.



□ Elders Nannup agent Terry Tarbotton (left) with his clients Bev and Lyndon Crouch, LM & EA Crouch, Nannup. The Crouchs purchased two bulls at the sale paying to \$14,000 for a Bonnydale Top Gun T150 son.

out of a Bonnydale Jim Beam daughter, Bonnydale Lil Desi M140.

The heifer joining-suited bull ranked in the top 1pc CE, top 5pc BW, top 2pc maternal calving ease (MCE), top 25pc stayability, top 15pc docility and top 10pc API index.

Two-year Bonnydale buyers Lyndon and Bev Crouch, LM & EA Crouch, Nannup, also collected two Black Simmental bulls and paid to a top price of \$14,000 for another Top Gun T150 son.

Mr Crouch said they were moving to all Black Simmental joinings for their first cross females they prepare for the Elders Springing Heifer Sale and their own cow joinings.

He said this was to suit changing supermarket requirements and added carcase weight.

"An additional 10kg carcase weight to the calves and the calving ease is a bonus, especially with the heifers," Mr Crouch said.



□ Vaughn Byrd (left) and Richard Gardiner, Aloca Farmlands, Wagerup/Pinjarra, with Bonnydale stud co-principal Rob Introvinne, Bridgetown, discussed the bulls prior to the sale where Aloca Farmlands were the sale's volume buyer with five Black Simmental bulls costing to \$9000 for a Bonnydale Top Gun T150 son.

The sale's \$12,500 top SimAngus bull was knocked down to Atlas Farms, Calingiri.

The 642kg early February born bull by Bonnydale Broad Range T61 and out of Bonnydale SA Ivory T412 was another curve bender with its EPD performance, in the top 3pc CW, top 15pc BW and WWT, top 5pc YWT, top 2pc MCE, top 10pc docility and top 20pc MWW.

There were a number of buyers who put together multiple bull teams.

Alcoa Farmlands, Wagerup/Pinjarra, returned to head the volume buyers with a team of five Black Simmental bulls costing to \$9000.

This was one bull ahead of return buyers BJ, FH & MP Thomas, Cundinup, (four Black Simmental bulls to \$9000), H Wolfe & Co, Bornholm (two Black Simmental and

two SimAngus bulls to \$9000) and Cattle Chosen Grazing Company (four Black Simmental bulls to \$6500).

Finishing with three bulls on their account were Yates Family Trust, Collie (three Black Simmentals to \$9000), Tellarup Brook, Manjimup (three Black Simmentals to \$9000) and SWS Pastoral, Bridgetown (one Black Simmental and two SimAngus).

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