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March 2016 Bonnibelt Belted Beef Newsletter

Welcome to our March 2016 Newsletter. I hope it finds everyone happy and in good health.

Whilst originally typing this the other night, there was a tiny shower of rain but as per usual, it was only teasing us. We had come back from Mackay on the 9th from visiting our son and other family members and we had been desperately trying to bring back some of the rain we'd had in the last week that we were there. They would have had close to Murray Bridge's annual rainfall and it was such a shame to see a lot of it going out to sea.

We had 30 mls the night after we came back which enabled the paddocks to start getting some green back into them and for Tony to start preparing other paddocks for seeding. He reaped his first crop of Tritacale early this year and was very pleased with what he got and it will be this seed that he will be planting. The perennial pasture trials are doing exceedingly well. We were not so sure before the rain last week but now they have jumped ahead and some of the cattle will get their first feed of it shortly.

Average weights over the last quarter for the beef has been 86kgs a side with the lightest being 69kg and the heaviest 112kg for the side. For a whole lamb, the trimmed weight was 25kgs with the lightest being 20kgs and the heaviest 29kgs. As you can see, there is a bit of variance on the average.

Beef and Lamb availability: There will be no beef or lamb available for the months of July or August. If you are on the pre-organised list, I will contact you shortly for the months leading up to them. As for the lamb, we had an excellent drop in April and May last year resulting in a few that haven't been spoken for. So if you or your friends are after some lamb, we should be able to supply you with one.

Any issues: Please remember, when you get your order, if there is an issue or you have a query with any of it, please contact me as soon as possible for us to try and work out how that issue may have arisen. It is normally something simple that can be readily rectified.

Increase in hide prices: I got a call from the tanner late last year advising me that his shire council will be hitting him with an 'effluent' fee but was unsure at the time of what the cost may be. I received word from him last month and coupled with his other increasing expenses there, unfortunately, will be a marked increase in the hide prices. This price increase will only affect any new hides being processed from 2016 on.

Did you Know that you can oil your steaks and chops instead of oiling the pan before cooking? This also helps to lessen the 'splatter' effect of the oil that would be sitting in the pan.

Community notices: I have been meaning to add this to the newsletter for quite a while and I keep forgetting, but if you have something that you think our community might be interested in or to help you out, let me know and I can include it in our quarterly newsletter. You may have a service or business that we can promote. Or it may be a large scale item for sale eg land, house, special car or boat, or you may be looking for a place to buy or rent. These are only examples so if you have something that may be of interest to others, contact me. It does not necessarily have to be in the immediate Murray Bridge area, as whilst our community is mainly based in South Australia, we have people reading this newsletter from other states and New Zealand and most of them love to travel.

I'll give you an example and at the same time give our cousin Sally and her husband Michael a shout out. They have Blue Poles Bed & Breakfast at Flaxton on the Sunshine Coast, ½ an hour from the Sunshine Coast Airport. I don't know how to shorten this link but click on it and it will take you to their Airbnb site

https://www.airbnb.com.au/rooms/4680764?ref_device_id=4309de96e4288cc68cf63fe29e32f89fee5a3c2b&s=3&user_id=24092655

The view is amazing and a very relaxing spot to base yourself if you are exploring that area. They only need a couple of beautiful beltie cows to put in their paddock and it would be picture perfect



Their number is 0403 332 749 and if you do go for a visit – Say Hi for us 😊

Also if you would like us to help promote your business or service and you have a website, we can list it on our website for you.

Till next time, have an enjoyable Easter and stay safe.

Regards,



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