

Dai, Brian and Glyn Roberts

Troed y Rhiw

Y Bala, Gwynedd



are benefiting from the Welsh Beef Quality Improvement Project



Factfile

- 200 acre upland farm near Bala
- Additional 100 acres Lowland at Bronnington near Whitchurch
- Farms beef and sheep
- 28 Limousin x Fresian cows
- Cattle sold fat

Dai Roberts along with his sons Brian and Glyn are in the process of developing their suckler herd. They are aiming to increase the number of Limousin x Fresian cows from 28 to 50.

Dai has attended the training days, which he found a great benefit: "The first day covered Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) and how to interpret them. This gave me the knowledge and confidence to go to the sales to buy a top quality bull". Dai also found the breeding strategy and animal husbandry elements useful in order to improve his breeding strategy and also how to maintain a healthy herd. The final day's training covers environmental management and grazing strategies and provides an excellent opportunity to discuss cross compliance issues with the Environment Agency.

Dai went to the Carlisle sale and discovered that of the 190 bulls for sale 97 were eligible for purchase under the WBQIP. He chose Griseburne Archduke, a Limousin bull, because he combined good figures, 400 Day Growth of 50 (top 10%), Calving Ease in the top 90% and Muscle Depth of 4.1 (top 10%) with good conformation and an excellent temperament. As Dai finishes his cattle, a good 400 Day Growth is important as well as Good Muscle Depth which will provide his progeny with good conformation. He was bought for £2,100.

Prior to the 40% funding towards the purchase price of a bull, Dai relied on Artificial Insemination (AI) and had never before selected a bull on EBVs. He is sure that his new knowledge will help him to breed better stock that will mature heavier and therefore obtain a premium at sale. He has also started Performance Recording and is finding it extremely useful to monitor weight gains and feed levels.

Purchasing a bull with superior genetics can improve the herd gross margin by £40 - £60 per calf sired. So for example, this could mean an extra £1,120 a year for Dai's herd of 28 cows which over four seasons could mean £4,480 extra. This clearly demonstrates the value of investing in superior genetics.

WHAT STEPS TO TAKE

1. Register with HCC on 01970 625050
2. Complete Part 1 of the training course
3. Select & purchase an eligible bull **before 31st December 2007**
4. **Immediately** register the bull with HCC
5. Complete the training course
6. Receive 40% of the purchase price back, 9 months after buying your bull (£2500 maximum)

Dai, Brian a Glyn Roberts

Troed y Rhiw

Y Bala, Gwynedd



yn elwa o'r Prosiect Gwella Ansawdd Cig Eidion



Ffeil Ffeithiau

- Fferm Tir Uchel 200 erw ger y Bala
- Can erw arall o Dir Isel yn Bronnington ger Whitchurch
- Yn ffermio gwartheg cig a defaid
- 28 o fuchod Limousin x Friesian
- Y gwartheg yn cael eu gwerthu ar ôl eu pesgi

Mae Dai Roberts ynghyd â'i feibion Brian a Glyn wrthi'n datblygu eu buches sugno. Eu nod yw cynyddu nifer y buchod Limousin x Friesian o 28 i 50.

Mae Dai wedi mynychu'r dyddiau hyfforddi, a oedd o fudd mawr iddo: "Roedd y diwrnod cyntaf yn ymwneud â Gwerthoedd Bridio Tybiedig (EBVau) a sut i'w dehongli. Rhoddodd hyn wybodaeth a hyder i fi fynd i'r arwerthiannau i brynu tarw o'r ansawdd gorau." Hefyd, darganfu Dai fod y strategaeth fridio a'r elfennau hwsmonaeth yn ddefnyddiol er mwyn gwella'i strategaeth fridio a chadw buches iach. Mae hyfforddiant y trydydd diwrnod yn ymwneud â rheoli'r amgylchedd a strategaethau pori ac mae'n gyfle gwych i drafod materion croesgydymffurfio gydag Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd.

Aeth Dai i'r arwerthiant yng Nghaerliwelydd lle roedd 97 o'r 190 o deirw oedd ar werth yn gymwys i'w prynu dan y WBQIP. Dewisodd Griseburne Archduke, tarw Limousin, am fod ganddo ffigurau cyfunol da, Twf 400 Niwrnod o 50 (yn y 10% uchaf). Rhwyddineb Lloia yn y 90% uchaf a Thrwch Cyhyrau o 4.1 (yn y 10% uchaf) ynghyd â chydffurfiad da a thymor rhagorol. Am fod Dai yn pesgi ei wartheg, mae Twf 400 Niwrnod da yn bwysig ynghyd â Thrwch Cyhyrau da a fydd yn rhoi cydffurfiad da i'w epil. Cafodd ei brynu am £2,100.

Cyn y 40% o gymhorthdal tuag at brynu tarw, roedd Dai yn dibynnu ar darw potel a doedd erioed wedi dewis tarw yn ôl ei EBVau. Mae e'n sicr bydd ei wybodaeth newydd yn ei gynorthwyo i fagu gwell anifeiliaid a fydd yn drymach ac yn denu'r prisiau gorau. Mae hefyd wedi dechrau Cofnodi Perfformiad – sy'n ddefnyddiol iawn i arolygu cynnydd pwysau a lefelau porthiant.

Wrth brynu tarw â geneteg uwchraddol, mae modd gwella maintioli elw'r fuches gymaint â £40 - £60 ar gyfer pob llo o'r tarw hwnnw. Felly, fe allai hynny olygu £1,120 y flwyddyn yn ychwanegol i fuches Dai o 28 o fuchod – a dros bedwar tymor gallai olygu £4,480 yn ychwanegol. Mae hyn yn dangos yn glir werth buddsoddi mewn geneteg uwchraddol.

CAMAU I'W CYMRYD

1. Cofrestrwch gyda HCC ar 01970 625050
2. Cwblhewch Rhan 1 o'r cwrs hyfforddi
3. Dewiswch a phrynwch darw cymwys **cyn 31 Rhagfyr 2007**
4. Cofrestrwch y tarw gyda HCC yn syth bin
5. Cwblhewch y cwrs hyfforddi
6. Derbyniwch 40% o'r pris prynu yn ôl, 9 mis ar ôl prynu'ch tarw (uchafswm o £2500)