

John Owen Monachty Bach Pennant, Ceredigion



is benefiting from the **Welsh Beef Quality Improvement Project**



John Owen read about the Welsh Beef Quality Improvement Project (WBQIP) in a Farmers Weekly article and contacted Hybu Cig Cymru (HCC). He found the whole process very easy as a representative from HCC visited him at the farm to discuss the project and sign him up.

John was already aware of the impact of Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) on farm businesses after visiting farms in Australia and New Zealand, where all bulls are sold on EBVs, and from his dealings with the Aberdeen Angus Society, which puts great emphasis on EBVs. Estimated Breeding Values can be used to identify bulls with superior growth and conformation.

John was finding it increasingly difficult to reach consistent conformation and obtain top grades with the cattle that he sells through the Waitrose Aberdeen Angus scheme, therefore being able to introduce a bull in the top 1% was vital. Participating in the WBQIP will enable him to claim back 40% of the purchase price of a top 10% bull and has enabled him to buy a superior animal which would have previously been out of his price range.

John purchased Summerhill Bomber, an Aberdeen Angus bull for £5500, from W. A. Robertson, a top line breeder from Pershore, Worcestershire. He said: "After comparing the indexes of many bulls I chose this one which scores highly in all areas giving more consistent conformation and higher growth rates to his progeny."

Factfile

- 380 acre Lowland Farm near Llanon, Ceredigion, plus 900 acre Mountain and share of 100 acres at Swyddffynnon
- Farms beef and sheep
- 110 Aberdeen Angus x cows with a move towards Saler x cows in recent years
- Cattle sold fat through the Waitrose Aberdeen Angus Scheme

Summerhill Bomber has an index in the top 1% with Calving Ease Direct of -3.4 (top 75% of Aberdeen Angus), 400 Day Growth of +63 (top 5%), Eye Muscle Area of +3.2 (top 1%), Retail Beef Yield index in the top 1% and a Terminal Sire index of 34 (top 1%).

John is now looking forward to seeing his first calves which are due the first week in April.

Calves sired by high index bulls can improve herd gross margins by £40 - £60 per calf. For John's herd of 110 cows this could mean an extra £4,400 per year and over four seasons could be worth £17,600 extra, clearly demonstrating 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)

John Owen Monachty Bach Pennant, Ceredigion



yn elwa o'r Prosiect Gwella Ansawdd Cig Eidion



Darllenodd John Owen am Brosiect Gwella Ansawdd Cig Eidion Cymru (WBQIP) mewn erthygl yn Farmers Weekly a chysylltodd â HCC. Darganfu fod yr holl broses yn rhwydd iawn. Galwodd un o gynrychiolwyr HCC heibio i'r fferm i drafod y prosiect ac i'w gofrestru.

Roedd John eisoes yn ymwybodol o ddylanwad Gwerthoedd Bridio Tybiedig (EBVau) ar fusnesau fferm ar ôl iddo ymweld â ffermydd yn Awstralia a Seland Newydd, lle mae'r holl deirw yn cael eu gwerthu yn ôl EBVau, a thrwy ymwneud â'r Gymdeithas Aberdeen Angus sy'n rhoi pwyslais mawr ar EBVau. Mae modd defnyddio Gwerthoedd Bridio Tybiedig i adnabod teirw â thwf a chydffurfiad uwchraddol.

Roedd John yn ei chael hi'n fwyfwy anodd i gael cydffurfiad cyson a'r graddau gorau ar gyfer y gwartheg sy'n cael eu gwerthu ganddo drwy gynllun Aberdeen Angus Waitrose – ac felly roedd gallu cyflwyno tarw o blith y 1% uchaf yn hanfodol. Bydd cymryd rhan yn y WBQIP yn golygu y gall hawlio nôl 40% o bris prynu tarw yn y 10% uchaf. Gallodd brynu anifail uwchraddol a fuasai fel arall wedi bod yn rhy ddrud iddo.

Prynodd John darw Aberdeen Angus, Summerhill Bomber am £5,500, oddi wrth W. A. Robertson, un o'r bridwyr pennaf o Pershore, Swydd Gaerwrangon. "Ar ôl cymharu mynegrifau llawer o'r teirw a dewisais hwn a oedd â sgôr uchel ym mhob agwedd. Bydd hyn yn rhoi cydffurfiad mwy cyson a gwell cyfraddau twf i'w epil."

Ffeil Ffeithiau

- Fferm 380 erw o Dir Isel ger Llan-non, Ceredigion, ynghyd â 900 erw o Dir Mynydd a chyfran o 100 erw yn Swyddffynnon
- Yn cadw gwartheg cig eidion a defaid
- 110 o fuchod croes Aberdeen Angus ond wedi symud tuag at wartheg croes Saler yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf
- Y gwartheg yn cael eu gwerthu ar ôl eu pesgi trwy Gynllun Aberdeen Angus Waitrose

Mae gan Summerhill Bomber fynegrif yn y 1% uchaf o ran Rhwyddineb Lloia gyda -3.4 (y 75% uchaf ymhlith Aberdeen Angus), Twf 400 Niwrnod o +63 (5% uchaf), Cyhyr y Llygad o +3 (1% uchaf), mynegrif Cynnyrch Cig Eidion Manwerth yn well na'r 1% uchaf a mynegrif Tarw Terfynol o 34 (1% uchaf).

Mae John nawr yn edrych ymlaen at weld ei loi cyntaf sydd i fod i gael eu geni yn ystod wythnos gyntaf Ebrill.

Gall lloi o deirw mynegrif uchel olygu cynnydd ym maintoli elw'r fuches o £40 - £60 y llo. I fuches John o 110 o fuchod, gallai hyn olygu £4,400 ychwanegol y flwyddyn a dros bedwar tymor gallai olygu £17,600 yn ychwanegol, gan ddangos 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)