

MEMBERS NEWSLETTER

Winter 2021/22

57th Annual Premier Sale

11th February, 2022

Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas

The **2022 Premier Sale** is planned to be held as a live sale conducted by Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas on **11th February**. The catalogue is available online at **www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk/sales**, and hard copies are available by request, although all members and previous buyers will be sent a copy.

This year's entry has levelled at **189** head, comprising:

37 Pedigree Luig In-calf Heifers

99 Pedigree Luig bulling heifers

53 Pedigree Luig Bulls

All bulls have been sire verified (where possible), and breed society inspected along with their dams classified. All relevant herd health information will be available in the front of the catalogue.

****Please note: There will be no annual dinner this year****

Please follow IAAS guidelines and only attend the market if you genuinely intend buying or selling. All attendees are asked to **take a lateral flow test before attending, and follow the pre-arrival registration process. Full guidelines can be found at**

<https://www.iaas.co.uk/coronavirus-update-scottish-livestock-markets/>

Annual General Meeting

10th February, 2022 at 5pm

Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas

Socially distanced - sale ring

While the format of the AGM will be in-person, strict social distancing will be adhered to, including the necessity to pre-register and take a lateral flow test before attendance. It is requested that attendance is kept to a minimum for compliance with IAAS guidelines, and the agenda has been restricted to essential business only.

NOTES:

1. **Participation will require adherence with the IAAS guidelines, including:**
 - a. **pre-registration with the market**
 - b. **negative lateral flow test**

Important Dates For Your Diary

31 Dec 21

Deadline for Census Update on Grassroots

11 Feb 22

Premier Sale - Wallets Marts, Castle Douglas

28 Feb 22

Deadline for 2021 Calf Registrations - "A"

18 May 22

Spring Female Sale - Dingwall & Highland Mart
entries close 15th April

HERD CENSUS and REGISTRATIONS

Please be aware that herd census information was due by 31st December. Accuracy of your herd composition on Grassroots is essential because it forms the basis for chargeable fees. It would be helpful if registrations were completed before your herd census, because all dams/sires remain available. ALL calves born to Luing females should be registered or birth notified annually to keep dam calving records accurate. Pedigree certificates will be issued for fully registered calves (P, A, B, C & L).

Access to Grassroots is available to all members and reminders for login details can be had from the office upon request. Guidance notes are available at

www.luingcattlesociety.co.uk/publications

MEMBERSHIP INVOICES

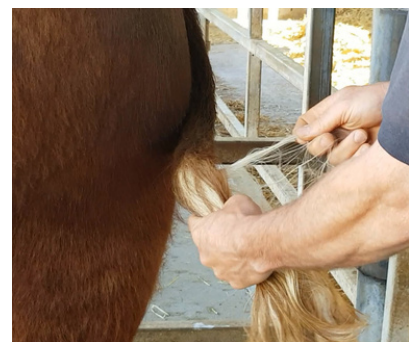
Annual membership invoices have been issued to all full members. It would be appreciated if remittance could be made as timely as possible to avoid unnecessary administration.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Thank you for the overwhelming number of entries for the photographic competition. All the entries have been displayed on Facebook and the results will be collated soon.

DNA SIRE PROFILING

Sires of 2022 born calves that might be kept for breeding need to be DNA profiled to enable sire verification. If not already done, please take a clean hair sample and put in a clean bag and forward to the office, with an ear number.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Honorary President

The Council is delighted to announce that it has awarded Shane Cadzow an Honorary President in recognition of his lifetime commitment and contribution to the Luing Breed. A presentation will be made at the earliest opportunity.

Members' Survey - marketing

The Council is keen to be more aware of members' intentions in relation to stock coming forward for sale. This will help with planning and assessing sale venues etc. In addition, the P & E committee is exploring options around marketing Luing beef, and are looking to identify those that are already marketing it. Both of these topics will be covered in a short survey circulated within this mailing.

Council Nominations

The first open nomination process for Council membership has been completed and the Council is pleased to announce that 3 nominations were accepted for the 3 vacant places. These three nominations will be ratified at the AGM without the need for an election on this occasion, and will take up 3 year terms from February 2022. The three nominations accepted were: Ewan McCall, Andrew Barr and Billy Graham.

Website "For Sale" advertisements

Council has debated and agreed a new structure for website advertisements. Those wishing to advertise and broker their own sales will be charged £100 per advert, with a term of 1 month. Those that wish to use the brokered service provided by our Fieldsman, will be FOC for the advertisement, however the fee for brokerage is 1% of the value of the sale.

Sire Verification

Please be aware that bull calves born from 2022 onwards that will be kept for breeding purposes will be expected to be sire verified by 31st August of the year following birth. This will mean that all sires of these calves need to be profiled. The LCS is funding DNA analysis of older stock bulls at 100%.

Myostatin

The Breed Development committee, in consultation with the whole Council, continue to monitor results, debate the implications and take advice on Myostatin in the Luing population. Only one variant has been found (F94L) thus far, and it exists in 26% of the tested population. The Council are considering whether it is appropriate, feasible and legal to restrict 2-copy bulls from Society approval. It is intended to hold a Members' workshop in the summer to raise awareness and gather feedback.