



World Simmental  
Fleckvieh Federation

[www.wsff.info](http://www.wsff.info)

# E-journal@



European  
Simmental Federation

[www.evf-esf.info](http://www.evf-esf.info)

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## Dear Simmental-Fleckvieh Friends,



For the first time in the history of the World Simmental Fleckvieh Federation and the European Simmental Federation a common newsletter has been issued. Although this issue is in English only, starting in 2011 the articles will be bilingual or at least consisting of a short summary in German and vice-versa. Therefore our request to all of you is to share information and news from your respective countries with all of members of the Simmental-Fleckvieh family around the globe.

Only a few days remain before the end of 2010 which was a year that brought a partial recovery of the milk prices, and during the last two months of the year we also received better prices for beef in many parts of the world.

In 2010 many of you attended the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress of the WSFF which was held in Melbourne, Australia as well as ESF Council meeting held in Paris, France. Both of the meetings focused on the current issues and topics found within agriculture and in particular within the Simmental-Fleckvieh world. The main issues of the ESF were the ongoing process of the harmonization of the type classification by dual purpose cattle for the overall scores. The first proposal to extend this system from dual-purpose animals to the beef animals was presented and supported during the WSFF Congress in Australia.

We all expect some exciting news for the year 2011 with the introduction of the genomic evaluation and genomic breeding values in some of the Simmental-Fleckvieh populations. The European Simmental Federation is currently working on a preparation of a research project "Gene2farm", which should be focused on the genomic selection in "non Holstein" breeds with participation of excellent research units from different European countries together with some of the breed

associations from Simmental-Fleckvieh and Brown Swiss world.

The countdown is on for the first joint meeting of the WSFF and ESF. May 3-7 2011 Italy will host the 29<sup>th</sup> Congress of the European Simmental Federation and at the same time the Council meeting of the WSFF will also take place in Udine, Italy. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss all common issues and to work together in more efficient ways.

Using this opportunity we would like to thank to both secretary generals: Dr. Roehrmoser and DI Skopalova and their teams for running both secretariats in 2010.

We would like to express our best wishes to all Simmental-Fleckvieh breeders and your families. We hope you enjoy a very Merry Christmas and a healthy, successful and prosperous New Year!

Yours sincerely

Bruce Holmquist  
President  
World Simmental  
Fleckvieh Federation

Josef Kučera  
President  
European  
Fleckvieh Federation

Merry  
Christmas

Merry Christmas  
and a  
Happy New Year!

PF 2011

on behalf of the WSFF

# WSFF Congress 2010



The World Simmental Fleckvieh Federation held their 2010 World Congress in Australia from September 18th-27th.

You can download the minutes of both meetings, Regular Members Meeting and Council Meeting, here: [www.wsff.info](http://www.wsff.info).

The following is a newspaper article, from this event, on the Royal Melbourne show at the Congress.

## Stellar Simmentals show off

By SHEENA COFFEY and CARLA WIESE-SMITH

IN WHAT was a stellar line-up of Simmental cattle at last week's Royal Melbourne Show feature breed judging, two South Australian studs stepped out in fine style to vie for the grand prize.

A large crowd had gathered for the judging - with numbers buoyed by the visiting World Simmental Congress delegates - and stood on nodding their approval as Scottish judge, John Young, picked his way through the competition.

Mr Young, "Skerrington Mains", Hurlford, Kilmarnock, Scotland, is principal of the Skerrington Simmental and Border Leicester studs.

His Simmentals have enjoyed great success in the sale ring, with bulls selling to 12,000 guineas - about \$22,500.

As judging got underway, the baby heifer class for nine- to 12-montholds saw Molong's BST Tullatoola take out first and second place with their sole two entries, both red heifers.

However, it was the South Australian exhibits that led the ribbon charge, with two notable studs rising to the fore.

Early in the judging, Mr Young's eye was caught by the first of the 13-strong Woonallee team from Tom and Lizzy Baker's Furner, South Australia, stud.

He placed their youngest entrant, Woonallee Patty E127, first in her class.

It was a similar story with the next classes, when Mr Young - decked out in a fine pair of Scottish trews - put Woonallee exhibits on top in the next two classes before their youngest team member, Woonallee Patty E127, was crowned junior champion heifer in front of stablemate, Arabella E100.

"Just look at her shape and the way she walks - you know she's a lady," Mr Young said.

"That's what I'm looking for - a feminine female, and when the bulls come out, I'll be looking for real bulls!"

In the senior classes, the Muller family's successful Tabatha line of cows stood out from the line-up and in the over 30-months class, a mother - last year's supreme exhibit - competed for the ribbon against her daughter, who was in the end named senior champion cow.

Rellum Farms Tabatha 8 had a top heifer calf at foot and when up against the junior heifer for grand champion female, this was a driving force in Mr Young's decision

making, who also noted the "top line and width" of the cow.

The junior bull classes were shared amongst Brenair Park, Drysdale, Victoria, Woonallee, Barana and Rellum Farms.

The junior champion sash went to Woonallee Essendon, with the second place-getter and stablemate, Woonallee Ernie, named reserve.

The Mathieson family's Brenair Park Dusty got up in the senior bull championship ahead of Gary and Joy Allen's Tugulawa Dan, from Mt Gambier, SA, but was outdone for the grand champion sash by Woonallee's junior bull, which weighed 772 kilograms and had an eye muscle area of 125 square centimetres.

In the last class for the day, the grand champion cow was named as supreme exhibit, leaving Rellum Farms stud principal, Grantley Muller, "ecstatic" but speechless.

Source: The Land, October 7, 2010



## Upcoming events in 2011

13. 01. - 16. 01. Swiss'Expo, Lausanne, Switzerland



21. 01. - 30. 01. Internationale Grüne Woche, Berlin, Germany



02. 02. Présentation des descendance Umotest, Besancon, France



There will be the WSFF Council Meeting from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011 in Udine, Italy together with the Congress of the European Simmental Federation.



For the preliminary program please check: [http://www.wsff.info/files/congress 10 australia/udine.pdf](http://www.wsff.info/files/congress%2010%20australia/udine.pdf)

We will inform you about the details soon.

For more events: [www.evf-esf.info](http://www.evf-esf.info), [www.wsff.info](http://www.wsff.info)

# Czech Fleckvieh Association's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Czech Fleckvieh Association celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in September, 2010. The Association's Annual Meeting was attended by approximately 220 people. Those attending included the Czech Association's staff and membership along with government and industry officials, and numerous representatives from several neighboring countries. Mr. Bruce Holmquist (Canada) accepted the invitation to this event too, and presented a report as the World Federation President. Through the meeting, updates were given on the activities of the Czech association as well as on activities from the world council and surrounding countries.

The following day there was the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Czech National Fleckvieh show in Radesinska Svatka, a small town in the central region of the Czech Republic. Some 6000 school children and adults viewed the display of 150 head of Simmental/Fleckvieh cattle.



The champion cow No CZ 170 508 953, father: ROIBOS, breeder: Agro Liboměřice, a.s. (2nd max. lactation: 10 069 - 3,61 - 363 - 3,14 - 316)

## Meeting of the ESF-Task Group Beef Fleckvieh-Simmental in Hannover, Germany

Hannover - The 2nd meeting of the ESF-task group Beef Fleckvieh-Simmental took place in context with the international Agricultural Fair "EuroTier" in Hannover Germany. 13 participants from 8 member countries were discussing the results of the questionnaires. Within the task-group around 50.000 Fleckvieh-Simmental cows are organized in herdbook. The European

members agree that there is definitely one breed Fleckvieh-Simmental with two purposes. There should be the mutual recognition for registering animals of both purposes in breederherdbooks. Gerard Brickley, Ireland, reported about the recording of birth weights by means of a measuring tape. Regarding the description of linear conformation some traits should be defined and adjusted first and then step by step harmonized.

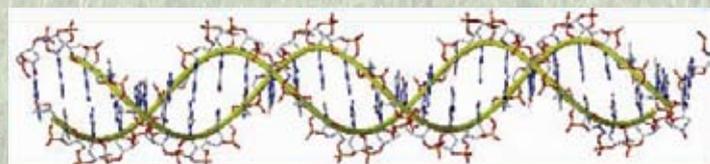
Practical exercises are planned within the next ESF-Congress in Udine, Italy (2.-7.5.2011). Dr. Peter Polgar, Hungary, offered a transnational data collection of performance results within a project of the Pannonian University in Keszthely. Henning Hansen invited the task group to the National Show in Herning, Denmark (30.6.-2.7.2011) to practice the linear description.

### ICAR/Interbull - Genomic evaluations validated by the GEBV

„The Directorate of Animal Health and Welfare of the European Commission has accepted Interbull/ICAR recommendation to consider genomic evaluations validated by the GEBV test as valid procedures within EU states. The validation results are considered to be sufficient evidence to conform to the EU legislation (Decision 2006/427/EC) during the current phase of implementing international genomic comparisons by Interbull (link to the EC official communication).

During the Interbull Technical Workshop to be held in Guelph, Canada, from February 27-28, the GEBV validation will be once more discussed and the Interbull Steering Committee will provide clear policies on further developments of the GEBV validation procedures.

As soon as proper methods for international genomic comparisons of national GEBVs are in place (GMACE or Simplified GMACE), GEBV validation will be mandatory prior to acceptance of national data, and then no specific results of the validation will be published, resembling the current procedure for validation of conventional EBVs prior to participation in the MACE runs.”



### Genomic selection in Austria/Germany will be in routine soon!

Unofficial genomic breeding values (for breeders associations and AI centers) will be available from February 2011. Official publication of the genomic breeding values is expected after Interbull validation in summer 2011

For more information visit the <http://www.fleckvieh.at/news-ticker/bericht/details/1-genomische-zuchtwertschaetzung-im-februar-2011-2473.html> (in German language)



Proceedings of the **37th ICAR Biennial Session Riga**, Latvia 31 May - 4 June 2010 - Farm animal breeding, identification, production recording and management [http://www.icar.org/pages/Publications/technical\\_series.htm](http://www.icar.org/pages/Publications/technical_series.htm)



**Polish Federation of Cattle Breeders and Dairy Farmers**, where Polish Simmental Association is a member, celebrated their 15th anniversary on October 2nd in Poznan. More about Polish Federation <http://pfhb.pl/english/index.php>



Presentation for the **WSFF Congress 2014 (Colombia)** you can watch here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aSvXWHwMj2U> (Spanish) • <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tfKACHCBsAl&feature=related> (German), <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yj8mqCFxUXY&feature=related> (English).

