Australian Galloway Association
Report to World Galloway Congress
August 2016

Australian Galloway Association (AGA)
www.galloway.asn.au

Sallie Wadley is our Executive Officer and she works for the Association two days each week.
The AGA's web site is always a great source of information and news and provides public access to the Association's herd book. It is a great tool for obtaining pedigree information when considering cattle joining options or new purchases.
There have been a number of Galloway Family Facebook pages developed for information exchange and our members, and Galloway enthusiasts world wide have been active and enthusiastic contributors on these sites.
Association membership is growing particularly in the area of lifestyle farmers, who have moved from the cities to small properties on the outskirts of larger towns and purchased smaller herds of cattle for both aesthetic reasons and also a source of beef for their tables. We now have 128 members and it is great to see an increase in the younger generation coming through as new breeders. Sadly some of our longstanding members have reached the age of retirement and dispersed their herds, but in most cases the cattle have been snapped up by existing members, or people who have purchased registered stock and made the decision to join the Association and build on the pedigreed stock they have purchased.

Galloway Family - Field Days, Workshops & Forums

The Galloway Family, that is all types of Galloways, are registered with the Australian Galloway Association.
We recently held our Annual General Meeting for 2016, which included a very successful dinner featuring Galloway beef, and a forum for our members to put forward their views and opinions. Over 60 people attended; a positive reflection on the Association.
A very successful stock handling workshop and field day featuring pasture management was held in conjunction with the AGM.
AGA members have run seven similar days in the past year, with a couple more planned before the end of the year.

With Australia being such a big country, the Committee called for people in different areas to act as event co-ordinators to help members organise similar types of events. We are hoping to build a bank of resources to use at field days or to provide to new members who are also new to cattle. We will be building on the success of past field days and holding them in different regions in the future, at the properties of AGA members.

Galloway Family Marketing

Showing continues to be a favourite marketing tool for breeders with AGA members doing a fabulous job of presenting their cattle in great **condition** despite tough conditions over the past couple of years.

At many shows the Galloways have held their own in the interbreed competitions, being highly ranked in the final placings.

Shows are also proving to be a great opportunity for Galloway breeders to get together and relax after the formalities and chat about their cattle and get to know each other.

Carcasses

The Galloway family in Australia continues to prove that they can produce the high yielding carcase for the butcher and the quality meat that the consumer enjoys. The proof is in a number of wins in carcase competitions entered and awards for "From the Paddock to Plate" production of beef.

Currently there are premiums being paid for grass fed beef for both export and local consumption.

Agricultural Field Days

Our members are finding field days are a great way for interested people to inspect and enquire about our Galloway cattle. These days are usually held over three or four days and breeders attend with a selection of cattle and promotional material. This provides valuable exposure to the general public as well as being a great networking opportunity to keep in touch with other cattle breeders displaying their cattle. We are finding that many people are coming back year after year to chat about the Galloway Family, and many do eventually buy some Galloways.

Composites

Galloways have always crossed very well with other breeds and some beef producers are having success doing this in order to meet current markets. In Northern Australia where most of Australia's beef is produced, Galloway genetics have been used successfully with the Brahman breed to produce a composite that is fertile, hardy, and productive, therefore improving the carcass quality of the Bos Indicus. In the Southern part of Australia the Galloway is being crossed with Angus to produce very marketable and productive stock – the hybrid vigour producing cattle which are grow well and are meaty and meet butcher shop and abattoir requirements.

Looking forward to seeing you in Australia in 2018

Please don't hesitate to contact the AGA office or any member if you are visiting Australia - we would be pleased to help in any way we can.

All the best for a successful Conference.