

McMoos Highland Cattle



McMoos Noos

2 September 2010

Mr McMoo Says: Happy Birthday McMoos Highland Cattle Group 1 year old this month. Hi All and welcome to the first addition of McMoos Noos. We hope to be able to get this to you on a monthly basis with a number of topics to cover as well as news or Noos on what's happening in the group and in the Highland world along with tips and hints on all sorts of stuff. Having just returned from a 3 day trip to deliver some animals to Kumeu in Akld and then on to Te Aroha and back to home base, I can report a few things. Its wet everywhere, there is not one region I passed through that did not have water lying in the paddocks and at the side of the road. But the best thing was to spend time with the guys from Georgia McMoos and Glenmor McMoos. For those who don't know the history behind McMoos Group, the group was formed 12 months ago after many years of breeding Highland Cattle. Lesley and I felt there was more to offer the Highland fraternity than what was being done and the concept of the McMoos Franchise was born. You can read more about it a www.highlandsonline.co.nz another McMoos project. To say we are very happy would be an understatement. We have achieved more than we expected in the first 12 months, proving the concept a success. We believe this is because the McMoos concept not only involves our members but our clients. As this is our first Noos letter, please forward me your question and stories and photos to include in the next addition as with feedback and interaction we will provide something you really find useful. Talk Soon. Greg (Mr McMoo)

From Around the Place. In this spot every month I would like to put a Fold Story. Now this can be either about a fold and where you are and or an animal that you love and the reason why it is so special and well pretty much anything that you like.

Sadly this month we had through personal reasons 3 animals returned to us that the owner could no longer look after. These were Ginnie, Murphy and Annabella. Unfortunately they arrived very under weight and not a touch on the condition they left here. This was a big shock to me as I had agreed to help the person out but was not expecting them to arrive in the condition they did. I was very upset, however that being said I was glad they were back with us. When they got off the truck I immediately noticed that they were not very hungry in fact showed very little appetite at all. On close inspection I could see the physical appearances of being under weight, no bums to speak of, very little spring of rib and the infamous sign of ribs under what was a think winter coat. I immediately dosed them with garlic and cider vinegar as well as some Techtonic and a product we keep here called Bio start. This is specially developed as a digestive enhancer. We give this to animals at weaning and also when they are sick and this was a good reason to use it. Well within hours appetite had returned and they were tucking in to the baleage. Phew. Since then they have continued to gain weight much to my relief. Ginnie and Annabella have both found new homes however Murphy, Son of Walnut and Muir who is a stunning black boy, is in the tender loving hands of one of our clients Graham and Sue Peck. Unfortunately being a bull his road back maybe be a lot harder but I am happy he is in great hands. A sad case but it could have been a lot worse.

Georgia's New Boy TED E BEAR



The Stunning Marilyn Munroe



McMoos
Highland Cattle Group
Quality - Personality - Performance
www.mcmoos.co.nz



2 September 2010

Birthing Problems. As this subject is fresh in my mind having had to make the decision recently to assist with the birth of our newest boy, I thought I could take you through the decision process which made me decide to help.

We noticed Lily lying in the paddock away from the other at approx 9.00am one morning. When approaching her it was clear that she was in labour as there was 1 foot extending from her. It appeared to be in the correct position. (diving out front feet first) although it was a bit to the side. I decided to observe her without interfering and keep an eye on the time as well. The water bag was out and she was clearly uncomfortable. Having watched her for a time she got up and down a few times and it was this that concerned me and also that the legs disappeared when she stood up. I made the decision to move her to the stockyards at this point. Now a few points to note on the stages of birth.

During the first stage of labour, the cow will become restless and often want to separate from the herd. She may stand with her tail raised and back arched and occasionally may even make some premature attempts at straining. The start of the second stage of labour is signalled by the appearance of the water bag.

The second stage of labour is the expulsion of the calf through the birth canal. Duration of this stage lasts from one-half hour in the cow to two or three hours in a first-calf heifer, A cow or heifer should be given no more than one hour after the water bag appears before being checked to see if she needs help. This was the key factor for me!

Expulsion of the foetal membranes (placenta) and involution of the uterus (getting ready for the next pregnancy) comprise the third stage of labour. The placenta is usually expelled within a few hours of birth but complete involution of the uterus takes up to 40 days after calving.

We left her in the yards and observed her and checked her closely over the next 1/2 hour to 45 minutes. By this stage she had the 2 feet protruding and I was able to confirm that they were in the diving position and the nose was just starting to appear. However once again she was up and down and every time she stood up they disappeared. This combined with the amount of time since the bag had burst which I had seen approx 1 hour ago, I was going in.

With Lily secured in the race and my long gloves on, having been thoroughly washed with soap and sanitiser (Very Important) I placed my hand inside Lily and grabbed the 2 feet which had retreated again as she was standing. It was neat to feel a small kick from the baby confirming life.

Having done this once before, with no time to waste I pulled the baby out and down (very important) Unfortunately with the feet and nose now out Lily dropped her bum on the ground. And out and down went out the door and it was out and left. A couple of strong pulls later he was out and breathing! We cleared his nose and mouth by hand. Scooping away the muck from them and confirming his breathing. Then quickly letting mum out and placing the baby in front of her, to which she immediately responded with cleaning him and the usual mum stuff.

This is not for the faint hearted or weak but at some stage during your Highland ownership you may have to do. The trick with the first one is either study hard or have someone with experience help you. Of the 50 odd animals we have had born at McMoos I have only had to pull out 2 so the odds are not high but it can happen. Frankly it is one of the most rewarding things to achieve if successful and one of the most devastating if not but it pays to be prepared. Here is a link that I have found very useful in regards to this and I suggest you have a look. [http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex3451#Stages](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex3451#Stages)

My advice as always is if in doubt consult your vet without hesitation and know your limits.

Here is a photo of little Hugo at approx 2 hours old with mum. Unfortunately it appears he was premature and while he knows where to look he has no sucking action, so Les, is milking Mum Lily by hand and feeding Hugo by syringe 3 times per day. I will include an update on Hugo next month.



McMoos Highland Cattle

McMoos Noos

2 September 2010

FOR SALE

Yes OK its a blatant attempt to sell you something but hey at least I'm up front!

This is Daphne McMoo.
DOB: 16 March 2010
Purebred2 dark red
Sire; Muir of Craigower (black)
Dam: Piper McMoo of Lumonte (dark red)
Daphne is a lovely girl and growing on really nicely.
Excuse her milk face...but she likes to spread it all around when drinking off mum.



GRETA GARBO MCMOO
DOB: 28 March 2010
Purebred 3
Sire: Mackay of Trossachs
Dam: Santana Sioux of Coopers Brae
A lovely solid and well balanced girl...she is growing just like her mum...solid !

Broc McMoo
DOB: 16 January 2010
Purebred 2 Bull Calf
Sire: Dumfries of Trossachs
Dam: Meg of Trossachs
Broc loves his brushes and cuddles in the paddock. And he often goes for a walk on the lead with his master !!
A well balanced lovely solid boy...



Now this of course is only 3 of the magnificent Highlands we currently have for Sale. For further information on these and more animals go to www.mcmoos.co.nz

www.McMoos.co.nz

McMoos
Highland Cattle Group
Quality - Personality - Performance
www.mcmoos.co.nz



McMoos Highland Cattle

McMoos Noos

2 September 2010

As they say in TV circles, "Thanks for Watching" I hope you have gleaned some information for this first addition, and with your input and questions it can only grow.

This Noosletter is only circulated to members of the McMoos Group, their clients and subscribers. If you have someone you know who would like to receive it drop me a line at greg@mcmoos.co.nz.

Questions are encouraged on any topic related to Highlands showing or the cattle industry.

Photos of your Highlands are also encouraged if not demanded !

With Spring officially here lets hope this rain stops and we can finally feel normal again and a little less like a duck.

AND a final note. Never expect baby to be the same colour as Mum.
Daisy and Marilyn



The End

