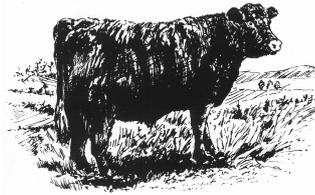


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25 October 2010

PRESS RELEASE

Luings hold their ground with a good trade at Autumn Sale

The Luing breed experienced a good trade at the Society's 37th Autumn Sale held on Saturday 23rd October at United Auctions' Stirling Agricultural Centre. Prices held up well given the much higher number forward of 177 (up 55 on the year). Pedigree Luing bulling heifers were sold to a top price of £2,050 with an average of £916 – down £261 on the year for 20 more sold; in-calf Luing heifers were bid to £1,950 (with an average of £1,491 – down £189 for seven more sold); in-calf Sim-Luings were bid to £1,800 (£1,418 – down £569 for 16 more sold) and Sim-Luing bulling heifers sold to £1,350 (£982 – down £89 for 15 more sold).

A total of 85 pedigree bulling heifers sold with the top price of £2,050 paid by Hanbury & Porritt of Gilsland, Brampton who are starting a new Luing herd, for a pair of 17-month old heifers from William Graham & Son of Craigdarroch, Sanquhar. They were polled red heifers, one by the homebred bull *Craigdarroch Hakka* and out of a Luing Ballycastle cow with the other by *Merkland Barkis* and out of a homebred cow. The Graham's retained the honour of going home with the highest average in their category selling 14 pedigree bulling heifers for an average of £1,270. Other highlights in averages for pedigree bulling heifers were the Upper Chatto pen brought out by Stephen Little of the Honourable R.B. Loder Children's Settlement who sold seven to average £1,192; Messrs Finlay McGowan who preceded the strong Craigdarroch trade to sell their consignment of six for an average of £1,116. R.H. Bell & Co. of Plenderleith Luings, Kelso sold six to average £933 and Cadzow Brothers, Luing, maintained the good trade to average £906 for 15.

The sale got off to a great start with the first pair in the ring fetching the top price for in-calf pedigree Luing heifers at £1,950 each. These once again came from R.J. Wotherspoon of Glen Lyon and were brought out by Farm Manager John Buglass, this time purchased by Floors Farming from Kelso. The two heifers were by *Luing Laggan* and out of Upper Chatto and Buckholm cows respectively and due to calve to *Wooplaw Knoydart* next spring. The Glen Lyon herd sold eight such in-calf heifers to average £1,575. These in-calf heifers were followed by a batch from Ian Moncrieff of Grange of Berryhill, Invergowrie, who had a strong sale with four averaging £1,325.

The Autumn Sale once again proved the place to buy Sim-Luings with some outstanding cattle forward commanding a very good trade. The Benhar herd of Robert McNee Ltd. led the trade in the bulling heifer section selling four to average £1,225, including the top price of £1,350 paid by Mrs. J. Morrison of Eliogarry, Isle of Barra for a pair of 18-month old heifers. The Benhar herd had earlier sold four in-calf Sim-Luings to average £1,750, including the top price pair

selling for £1,800 per head to Mr. Webster of Woodsley, Yorkshire. G.D. Proudley, a relatively new breeder from Whitby and selling for the first time, did extremely well selling two bulling heifers to average £1,250. This followed on from a very strong demand earlier in the sale for his in-calf heifers when eight were sold to average £1,425; these 2 ½ year old heifers had already reared Charolais cross calves and were back in calf to the same Charolais bull. Colin Little of East Bracklinn, Callander, once again had a very good sale with his Sim-Luing heifers in calf to a Limousin bull all selling to average £1,304 for 12. D&A Barr of Milkieston Luings, Peebles, achieved an impressive average of £1,030 for eight Sim-Luing bulling heifers; John Fawcett from Merkland, Dumfries-shire also sold eight to average £975 and Torwoodlee & Buckholm Estates sold ten to average £945.

Commenting on the good trade, Society Chairman Matthew Mauchlen said, "We can be happy with today's sale as commercial beef producers continue to give us a very clear signal that quality breeding heifers are still very much in demand. Sim-Luing bulling heifers in particular held up very well which was pleasing to see for such a high standard of heifer forward. It was always going to be difficult, if not impossible, to match last year's record breaking year in terms of average and top prices given the significant increase in numbers entered and the current pressure on the price of prime cattle."

Ends

Further Information

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