

PEPPERCORN



BELTED GALLOWAY STUD

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Next Gen Galloway Genetics Available

Australia's pre-eminent Belted Galloway stud, Peppercorn, has released to the public the top quality genetics of one of their famous Australian champion bulls, **Peppercorn Zula**.

The first batch of fifteen hundred semen straws from Peppercorn Zula, Australia's first live Belted Galloway export, are now available worldwide to commercial beef growers and ordinary stud breeders. Already, large commercial beef growers in countries such as Britain, Brazil and Canada have generated much global interest in Zula's genetics.

Given Peppercorn Zula's entry into Australia's cattle history, it seems appropriate that the character and qualities of this bull is explored for the record.



Terry Pierce with Supreme Champion Galloway Bull, Peppercorn Zula at the Royal NZ Show held in Christchurch, Nov 2006. Photo: Greg Stuart

Awarded Senior Champion Bull and Supreme Champion Galloway on his debut showing at the Royal New Zealand Show in November 2006, Peppercorn Zula was exported from Australia in June 2006 and sold to *Lilliesleaf Belted Galloway Stud*, in New Zealand thereafter. Zula was not shown in

Australia because of the time required for him to be quarantined prior to export. Peppercorn Belted Galloway Stud retains Zula's semen rights.

Sired by Peppercorn Wisdom, grand champion of the 2003 Royal Sydney and

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Studmasters: Terry and Karen Pierce

ABN: 36 325 301 635

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...the Next Generation Galloway...

Peppercorn Zula

...A Champion
from Champion Bloodlines...

...of Full Scottish Stock
A Very Traditional Animal
Strong Reliable Belt
Very Correct...

...Outstanding Temperament
Muscly
Excellent Topline
Great Hindquarter
Good Length
Early Maturing
Mannosidosis Free...

...Available Worldwide...

a Fresh, New Genetic Line

...the best of the breed...

Brisbane shows, Peppercorn Zula's temperament is an important achievement for Terry Pierce, Peppercorn's studmaster. "All of Peppercorn's bulls have superior temperament – it's an extremely important component of our breeding strategy. Stirry cattle are harder to fatten - better temperament means more meat," Terry says. "Zula is an extremely quiet animal naturally. On this point, he is the best we've bred – simply outstanding."

Zula genetics are particularly desirable in New Zealand due to the fact that his paternal grandsire is Mochrum Kingfisher, a world-famous champion Scottish bull. "Kingfisher's exceptional genetics were unable to be directly imported into NZ because Kingfisher unfortunately died prior to him being tested for mannosidosis by NZ



Peppercorn Zula at the Royal NZ Show held in Christchurch, November 2006. Photo: Karen Pierce

authorities," says Pierce. "Zula can provide these genetics to help improve New Zealand's herds with this totally new bloodline."

Born in November 2004 and still fairly young, Terry feels Peppercorn Zula is a superb example of the Kingfisher line of calves in terms of carcass traits. "He's growthy and muscly with great hindquarter, with excellent topline, good length - all the things you aim for in producing a top quality carcass. He's got it. We believe Zula will produce really fine calves."

"And Zula seems to be an early-maturing type of Belted Galloway, which feedlotter and commercial herders will appreciate."

"Zula is a *very* correct bull." Terry is quite emphatic on this point. "He stands well, walks well, is impeccably conformed and has sound feet. He looks like a bull, acts



Peppercorn Zula in the paddock, New Zealand, November 2006. Photo: Karen Pierce

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like a bull, and *knows* he's a bull. He's great to watch. He's the best of the breed.

"All these things help to increase carcass ability, I think. We believe Zula's genetics will be a valuable investment in improving carcass characteristics, putting more meat into it. He should do very well crossing with most breeds regarding carcass heritability"

Terry profits from the fact that the Belted Galloway has an additional benefit over other breeds through the sale of their unique and sought-after skins. "Zula comes from families that throw good strong reliable belts. Its part of the Peppercorn ethos to maintain as much value in the animal as we can, and it's an economic fact that a skin with a good belt adds increased value to the animal. You don't get this benefit with an Angus or a Murray Grey. They aren't pretty enough in the paddock. People want attractive skins."

Peppercorn Zula is a very traditional looking Belted Galloway, a result of being the progeny of full Scottish bloodlines. It is Peppercorn policy to only use such.

It isn't only Peppercorn Zula's sire lines that are impressive. His dam lines are champion laden too. Zula's dam is Peppercorn Ursula, Reserve Senior Female Champion (in a class of nine and without a calf) at Canberra Royal Show 2002. His maternal grandsire is Peppercorn Rosco, original sire of the Peppercorn herd, winner of various Sires Progeny and Breeders groups, and sire of multiple champion progeny including Peppercorn Xtra, Supreme Exhibit, Reserve, Senior and Grand Champion Bull at many of Australia's major Royal Shows. More champion stock is regularly found further back in Peppercorn Zula's remarkable ancestry.

The entry of Peppercorn Zula genetics into the global market broadens the Belted Galloway genetic base worldwide. "The simple reality is that there aren't that many Belted Galloway bulls available on the world market – Peppercorn Zula is new," remarks Terry. "He is a different, fresh genetic line."

PEPPERCORN ZULA FRAME MEASUREMENTS

	3/3/06	28/6/06	25/11/06
	15 months	19 months	24 months
Weight	375	445	560
Length	98	107	119
Hip Width	40	46	48
Hip Height	117	127	132
Girth	-	-	192
Hip to Pin	46	46	48
Testes	33	34	36

Terry believes that Peppercorn Zula is representative of the top 5% of the animals in the Australian herd and suspects Zula maybe slightly more attractive to the international market rather than perhaps the Australian market. "We'll have to wait and see," says Terry. "In the meantime, Zula is available for global use where the other good Australian bulls aren't."

Terry feels Zula will improve the NZ carcass qualities compared to what they have already. "It seems that New Zealand has bred for belts in the past and I'm hoping Zula will provide what they are looking for in terms of carcass attributes. So far, the interest has been positive. Lets face it, the Kiwi's gave Australia our first belties back in 1973 – it's an honour to finally return the favour!"

The unique attributes of the Galloway are becoming more famous as cattle growers



*Peppercorn Zula at the Royal NZ Show
November 2006. Photo: Karen Pierce*

look for ways to improve their herds. The double-haired coat that insulates these cattle during winter, in particular, is of interest when looking to reduce winter-feed bills. It has been demonstrated that Galloways require as much as 25% less feed due to this feature. The benefit is equally applicable in cold droughts.

Galloways have been well known for their capacity to produce beef of the most superior quality on extremely poor forage – a fact known two hundred years ago when English cattle growers sought breeds to improve on. Breeds such as the Aberdeen Angus and the Shorthorn were thought to need improvement, not the Galloway. This still holds true today with Galloways, belted and solid, regularly winning major carcass competitions. The exceptional quality of their meat is a proven fact.

“I’ve run Herefords, Murray Greys, Angus and now Belted Galloways,” says Terry, who has been growing beef for forty-five years. “There are too many benefits with the Belties for me to ever consider going back to the other breeds.”

“Zula is fortunate enough to be a composite of the best of extremely good bloodlines that have clicked together to produce one of the greater examples of the breed I have seen.”

“Peppercorn Zula is the next generation of those better bulls that can pass on these useful genetics and traits. Zula is one of the



*Peppercorn Zula at thirteen months.
Photo: Karen Pierce*

...the Next Generation Galloway...

Peppercorn Zula

**“Where do I get
him?”**

Contact Peppercorn Belted
Galloway Stud direct

Tel: **02 6558 4227** in Australia

Tel: **6 12 6558 4227** Internationally

Email: **belties@belties.com.au**

Contact

Genetics Enterprises (2001) Ltd
Geoff Thompson

Tel: **0064 7 827-5173** in New Zealand

Email: **genetent@wave.co.nz**

...Larger commercial orders may
require a four-month lead time...

a Fresh, New Genetic Line

...the best of the breed...

few Belted Galloway bulls available to do that.”

As a two-year old with no progeny yet on the ground (his first calf is expected in July this year in New Zealand), Peppercorn Zula’s future will have to be carefully followed, and further commercial viewpoints sought. However, the young bull’s impressive credentials found a solid platform that shows much promise in launching a spectacular siring career.

Peppercorn Belted Galloway Stud is located at Barrington, NSW, near Gloucester, Australia. ■■

This article written by ©Andrew Monaghan
(Jandrew Belted Galloway Stud) February 2007

-primarily based on information provided by Peppercorn Belted
Galloway Stud and subsequent interviews with Terry and Karen
Pierce conducted January 2007

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