

## THE SIMMENTAL ADVANTAGE 2019

# Breed wins Stan Hill Trophy

BY RUTH SCHWAGER

IT TOOK almost four decades, but the Simmental breed's carcass qualities have been recognised with the Stan Hill Trophy at the 2019 Sydney Royal Easter Show. The three steers managed a total score of 259 of a possible 300.

Jason and Jacqui Impey, Mala-Daki Simmentals, Bunnaburra, NSW, bred the red and black steers, while the traditional steer was bred by John and Nicole Hopkins, Wormbete Simmentals, Ilabo, NSW.

## MALA-DAKI'S TOP SCORING STEER

The Impey's class winning steer, which scored 88 points, was sired by Mala Daki Red Amigo K649, while their other steer was by Spring-side Eldorado.

Mr Impey said preparation began earlier than usual due to drought, with the steers being weaning around Christmas, and put onto feed.

"We were using Johnson pellets, a sheep nut type pellet, from South Australia, which was what all the cows were on, so we were getting 42 tonnes delivered every month. Then we finished them on the Alexander Downs steer feedlot mix."

Mr Impey, who also exhibited three stud heifers at Sydney, said the competition

was a good way to see how the family's cattle performed.

"The show ring is subjective, based on judges opinions, whereas the carcass side is objective, and a lot more realistic to commercial production," he said.

Mala-Daki stud has had great success in the Sydney steer competition, receiving two silver medals in the past two years and gold and silver medals four years ago.

## FRENSHAM SHOWS WORMBETE STEER

The traditional steer bred by Nicole and John Hopkins of Wormbete Simmentals scored 82 points and was prepared and exhibited by Frensham School students, under the guidance of agriculture teacher Leonie Mutch.

Paddy was led by Judy Hopkins, who is in year 9 at the Mittagong school in NSW. Her older sister Mim is in year 11.

Mr Hopkins said the school was well-known for its high academic standards, which are balanced with a strong agricultural program.

"They have 30 kids in the show team with cattle, sheep and pigs, and there are girls in that team that have no background in agriculture," he said.

"We're happy to support the agriculture program and it's great for the country kids to share their experience with them."



**STAN HILL:** Frensham student Judy Hopkins leading Paddy, bred by John and Nicole Hopkins, Wormbete Simmentals, with Mala-Daki Moto Moto and Mala-Daki Huey, both bred by the Impey family at Mala-Daki Simmentals.

## High honour for Simmentals at Sydney

SIMMENTAL cattle showed their carcass strength at this year's Sydney Royal Easter Show, with the breed taking out the coveted Stan Hill Trophy for a pen of three pure-bred led steers based on their high carcass scores.

It was the first time the breed had won the Stan

Hill Trophy in 39 years, beating the Angus steers in second and Shorthorns in third place.

The winning team included two steers bred and exhibited by Jason and Jacqueline Impey of Mala Daki Simmentals that scored 88 and 89 points, and another

steer exhibited by Frensham School and bred by Nicole and John Hopkins of Wormbete Simmentals that scored 82 points, for a total of 259 out of a possible 300 in the carcass section.

The Impey's class winning steer, that scored 88 points, was sired by Mala Daki Red

Amigo K649, while their other steer was by Spring-side Eldorado.

Paddy, the traditional steer bred by the Hopkins family, was 12 months of age. He was by Tugulawa Lance from Wormbete Beatrix K49, and he won a bronze medal on the hook.