

# Deewall Hereford's

# News

We thought that the "industry leaders" do a newsletter, why not do one for Deewall Herefords. Now, don't get me wrong, I know that we aren't in their league, but we thought that our friends, customers and fellow Hereford Breeders might like to read about some of our herd history, some of our cattle thoughts, some neat stories, a veterinary update or maybe a recipe or two.

## Our Line Breeding History & Philosophy

Our herd is line bred and has been for 95 years. Jane's Grandfather, Walter Nash, started the herd in 1914 and was joined by his son, Franklin, in 1918. Franklin was Jane's Father and was interested in cattle his entire life. In fact, we have a Hereford scrapbook, of all the famous cows and bull's photos, which he liked, and had cut out of the Hereford Journal, which he put together in 1<sup>st</sup> grade. (That would have been in about 1924) When he served in WWII, he was the only American Coast Watcher in the Solomon Islands and served behind the Japanese lines. In the few letters, to home, that we now have copies of, he would always tell his father to spend his last three Army checks on another registered Hereford heifer. The line breeding really kicked into gear about the time a lot of Hereford breeders were being "cleaned out" with the dwarfism genetics.

Jane remembers going with Franklin, when she was around 7 or 8 years old, to one of the neighbors and purchasing 10 Hereford cows that had dwarf calves at side. They hauled the pairs home, stopping by the bone yard, where Franklin shot the calves. Jane recalls, him getting back in the truck with a sickish look and said to her, " this will speed

things up by two years- it just has to be done". He took those 10 cows and added them to a friend's 8 cows that were known dwarf carries and started breeding his best herd bulls to them. Don't you know that the next 10-12 mos. were a nervous wait for him? He did that until he had daughters of the bulls to breed them back to. That was his test for any genetic defects, and is still practiced in our herd today. If the Angus breeders had been practicing this type of line breeding, they would have found the curly spine and the other genetic defects in those lines, much sooner. It could have saved many breeders a lot of money, time, trust, headaches and of course friendships.

When we claim to have a line-bred herd, we don't mean that we are a "closed herd"- Not like the Anxiety 4<sup>th</sup> line or the Miles City line -because Franklin occasionally would purchase a bull, which was sired by a Nash bull (a bull that he had sold to a good breeder), and out of said breeder's really good cow. He did this with a couple Marvin Bohmont bulls, which really helped the Nash herd. In fact, several if not most of the cattle we run today, will have one or both these bulls back in their pedigrees. To Franklin, it was more important, to raise good solid Herefords, with the line breeding to help keep the genetic base free of problem genes, than to have a closed herd. In the early 1980's, Franklin introduced the Arrow, a bull who's entire pedigree was different than the Nash breeding, except the Arrow's sire and 10 generations, between them, traced back to one of the Nash herd's founding sires, Advance Domino 20! Not every one of those so-called "outcross" bulls worked. If Franklin didn't like their

calves, every one of them were cut and sold! He wasn't one to " have to get his investment out" of one that didn't fit in. He would always say, "in the long run, they will cost you way more than you invested in them." We, at Deewall Herefords are practicing this philosophy. We haven't tied to any "out cross" bull yet, but would, if he fit into our genetic thinking and had something that we think would help us.

When Jane was young, Franklin ran 400 commercial Hereford cows and 200 registered Herefords from which he raised the bulls for commercial herd. He would pull the bulls and run them in the Swan Field, a pasture we summer our yearling heifers in, today. What a sight that was to see! A pasture with 20 or so mature Hereford bulls running together. They were very uniform, thick, correct bulls with a lot of Hereford style. (The only sight that we have seen today, that is anything similar, was at Dan Bowling's Newkirk, Oklahoma Ranch, where he runs a lot of mature bulls, together, in the off season, in one pasture). Franklin would usually choose his herd bulls for the registered herd from this group. During that time, most of the cattle visitors would "oh and ah" over the bulls than add, "they are the best set of bulls we have seen but are just too big." Franklin would always come back with, "you follow a fad, and you will get into trouble- they work for me, my country and my customers". Later, in the late 50's the Nash family split up the ranch and Franklin ended up with the

(Cont'd inside)

registered herd, which are the ancestors of the Deewall herd, today. We are so fortunate to have the life work of a "line breeding genius" put into our hands to carry on.

## History of the Deewall Herefords Longevity

The Nash/Deewall Herefords were developed in Colorado at 7000 to 10,000 feet in elevation.



644 is a 3 year old bull with an actual birth weight of 73 lbs. We have used this extremely long, straight, correct son of 908 on our heifers for the last two years. The calves that we have by him are vigorous, uniform, well marked and have an actual average birth weight of 70 lbs. In fact, he has worked so well on the heifers, that we calved the last of the heifers in the pasture. He is with the heifers in Colorado again this summer.

The country is very open with short type grasses, rough rocks and Pine, Fir and Aspen trees. In the cattle's developmental years, the winters could be quite cold with a lot of snow. The winters later were milder. Franklin wintered the cattle in the Basin, which was a great winter pasture with a lot of south slopes, on which the snow melted faster. He would take them a load of dehi, with percentage of salt as a limiting consumption ingredient, every three weeks. Many times, he would get stuck and have to dig out of the snowdrifts. Several times, he actually had to walk home and leave the truck in the snow bank. The cows stayed in the Basin until after they calved. If they didn't come out with a calf at side, they were summered in the selling pasture and hauled to the Colorado State Penitentiary's slaughter plant that August.

Jane recalls going with Franklin several times to deliver the "sellers". She says, "Dad and I really hated to have to sell some good cows that had failed us, and the convicts were wanting

more of those "good Nash cows". The moral of this story is that, Franklin never doctored a cow, rarely saw a cow calve, and just wouldn't propagate a problem. He always gave the few cows that came up with a cancer eye, to his friend or neighbor. He said, "I am not, as a registered Hereford breeder, going to be seen with my brand on a cancer eyed cow at a sale barn". And, to prove that his determination on selection paid off, he didn't have even one cancer eye in his last 17 years of running Herefords! We can't say that we have been so lucky. Here at Coldwater, we have had 4 cancer eyes on the registered cattle in 15 years. And can tell you that two were 7-year-old cows and the other two were 10 or 11 years old. How often have you heard that your young cows are theoretically genetically superior to the older cows in a herd? We hear this all the time! Give us an older cow that is in good shape, good eyed, milks well and has always raised a good calf, and we want to tie to her. We will take all the heifers that she will produce to go back into the herd. Our using a good 2-year old bull, V4's Advance, on a group of cows, proves a great example of our strong belief in tying to longevity. V4's Advance's mother, V4, was 16 years old when he was born. (See ad on next page for photo of V4's Advance.) How does a breeder know what type of longevity he has to offer, if he turns over the herd every three years?

## EPD'S----Why We Don't Have Them

When the Total Performance Program (TPR) came down the pike, Franklin was almost running a one-man operation. The one man was himself! He would have had to rearrange his entire operation to find and weigh the calves at birth. This would mean bringing the cattle closer to home to calve them, more expense in feed bills, and just a lot of "babysitting" which he didn't believe in. On top of that, his basic way of thinking was that if a breeder needed numbers to tell him which were his best cows, he probably wasn't much of a cowman. Franklin sold around 60 bulls a year, without EPD's and got along just fine. In fact, there was a family who purchased 5-10 of the top bulls every year for 60 straight years! That family has come to Kansas to purchase bulls from us, and they aren't looking for EPD's. They know what the bulls can do for them. We realize that there is a group of cattle people, who won't even look at our cattle because we don't have the numbers. We understand and accept that, but for each of them, we have another customer who wouldn't be looking if we did have the numbers. Our customers are looking for the muscling and natural thickness, the good doing ability and clean Hereford character that have been bred into the Nash/Deewall cattle for many generations. And yes, we could get EPD's by using an AI bull that has good numbers, but with that would come pedigrees and traits that we don't want. At this point in our operation, we aren't big enough in herd size to sacrifice half the herd to compare our 100% Deewall/Nash calves to those of a high numbered bull in order to get some EPDs.

## Our Customers Say...

"We at Oller Farms have for years purchased Hereford bulls to help with the upgrading of our commercial cowherd.

It wasn't until we started purchasing Deewall bulls that we were able to achieve true advancements in our feedlot efficiency. We were also pleased to see the improvement in structural correctness and a definite increase in muscling throughout the herd.

Ten years of using Deewall line bred bulls has made quite a difference! We are excited to have produced the Grand and Reserve Champion steers at this year's county fair, both sired by Deewall bulls."

David Hubbard  
Manager, Oller Farms

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## A Great Beef Recipe -

We are always happy to share a recipe that helps sell more beef!

### Slow-Cooked Coffee Beef Roast

1 beef roast (almost any cut will work-just make sure that it is small enough to fit in your crock-pot)

2 tsp. Olive oil

1 ½ cups sliced fresh mushrooms

2 garlic cloves, minced

1 ½ Cups brewed coffee—It can be a day old

½ tsp. Salt

¼ tsp. Pepper

½ tsp. Chili powder

¼ cup cornstarch OR flour

1/3 cup cold water

In large nonstick skillet, brown roast, over med-hi heat, on all sides in oil. Place in slow cooker. In the same skillet, sauté mushrooms and garlic until tender; stir in the coffee, salt, chili powder, and pepper. Pour over roast. Cover and cook on low for 5-7 hours or until meat is tender. Remove roast and keep warm. Pour cooking juices into saucepan, and skim off fat. Combine flour or cornstarch and water until smooth. Gradually stir into cooking juices. Bring to a boil; cook and stir until thick. Serve with sliced beef.

We think this is the best way to easily cook a roast!!!!



## HERD BULLS

**D ADVANCE 754** by **D ADVANCE 908**

Full Brother to the sire of our top sire group on Tallgrass ultra sound.

## 95 YEARS OF LINEBREEDING AT WORK

Our highest scoring Tallgrass Ultra-sound bull to date. Sired by a full brother to 754.



**HERD BULL PROSPECTS AND RANGE BULLS FOR SALE AT THE RANCH.**

**V4's ADVANCE - From Same Dam as ADV RED 11**  
Her 14th Natural Calf

## Commercial Heifer Calves for Sale

There will be around 6 heifer calves for sale. We will wean in November and get them straightened out, with their shots. Some have more white than we like to put back into the herd, but are nice heifers, the rest are too young for our spring calving program.

## 20 Coming 2-year Old Bulls For Sale

We have 20 sale bulls, which will be two years old, starting in mid-March 2010. They are running in a 220-acre pasture and are receiving 5# of 16% cake once a day. We have their actual birth weights; of which the average birth weight is 80.35 lbs. and Tall Grass ultra sound carcass scan data on each bull. These bulls are for sale, private treaty, at the ranch. It would be our pleasure to show them, their dams and sires to you at any time.

## Deewall Family

**Mike**

1074 Hwy. 1  
620-582-2669

Mike & Jane Deewall



**Herefords**

Coldwater, KS 67029  
620-635-5978

[www.deewallherefords.com](http://www.deewallherefords.com)

**Deewall Herefords**  
**1074 Hwy. 1**  
**Coldwater, Kansas 67029**

**Deewall Herefords Has a  
Web Page ...**  
**[www.deewallherefords.com](http://www.deewallherefords.com)**

With the help of good friend, Hereford customer and web designer, Jerry Hambley, we have a really nice web site that we encourage you to visit. It features a lot of our cattle history, photos, and general information. Jerry works to keep it current and informative.

## **Trichomonas – Little Bug = Big Problem**

**Kelly M. Deewall DVM**  
**Ph. 620-635-2629**

Trichomoniasis (commonly known as Trich) is a sexually transmitted disease of cattle caused by the protozoal parasite, *Tritrichomonas foetus*. This parasite inhabits the crypts in the prepuce and on the surface of the penis of carrier bulls and is spread to Trich-negative cows through sexual contact. The Trich organism then infects the lining of the uterus, vagina, cervix, and oviducts in the cow. It is estimated that 80-90% of cows exposed to Trich at breeding will become infected. On average it takes 95–160 days for the cow to clear this infection. This allows the disease to be spread to Trich-negative bulls in multiple breeding situations. Once a bull contracts Trich, he will never clear it and will be a carrier for life.

Trich is an economically devastating disease for herds that contract it. Trich causes poor conception rates, abortions (usually 6-8 weeks after conception), a high percentage of late calvers, and uterine infections. Affected herds can commonly have 40-50% open cows! We used to think of Trich as a disease of the western states, but it has been on the rise in Kansas and across the nation. The most common sources of Trich introduction into a cowherd are the purchase of (or leasing of) non-virgin bulls, non-virgin females, and less commonly commingling of neighboring herds via poorly fenced pastures.

A diagnosis of Trich is highly suspected when a herd's conception rates at preg check time are lower than normal, confirmed pregnant animals fail to calve, abortions are observed, and/or there is a large percentage of cows calving late. There is not one easy way to test for Trich. Generally it is recommended to test all bulls (preferably 2-3 weeks after being pulled off the cows) three times with one week between tests. Testing only once is not accurate, and the trich could easily be missed. Testing consists of taking scrapings from the prepuce of the bull and sending it for culture to grow the organism or a test called PCR, which detects the organism's DNA in the sample. In any case, a positive bull must be culled, and in herds where there is more than one bull breeding per

pasture, any other bulls that were exposed to the same set of cows should be culled. In some cases where a bull's value warrants it, a total of 6 consecutive weekly tests can be performed to be sure that that bull is truly negative. In one case I recall a bull tested positive on the 6<sup>th</sup> and final test! In some cases, ranches have culled their entire bull battery to try to stop the spread of the disease. Cows with pyometras (pus filled uterus) may test positive for Trich if the uterine fluid is sent in for testing. In the face of a Trich outbreak, all infected bulls and open cows must be culled for slaughter in addition to any cows who abort or fail to calve. It is estimated that 1 in 1000 cows can harbor the disease and still calve normally. This cow could serve as a reservoir next year.

Obviously, Trich is a much easier disease to prevent than to deal with after you have the problem. The keys to prevention are:

1. Only buy virgin bulls and heifers.
2. If not virgins, make sure the bulls have been recently tested negative for trich.
3. If buying bred females, only buy 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester cows or buy from a known trich negative herd.
4. Do not lease bulls.
5. Make sure your fences are secure and any stray cows or bulls are removed quickly and isolated from the herd.
6. AI (only purchase semen from a reliable source since Trich can survive the freezing and thawing procedures).
7. Do not reuse CIDRS and thoroughly clean/sterilize your CIDR applicator between animals.
8. Communicate with your neighbors and your veterinarian so that problems can be found early and the spread of the disease can be limited.
9. Vaccination??? – A vaccine is available, but its use is controversial. It will not prevent infection and offers no protection to bulls, but it will help an infected cow clear the Trich infection faster. Its use is usually reserved for herds who have Trich problems already or are in an area where Trich is very prevalent.