

DERRICK AND PAM SPANN

MINLACOWIE, STUD NO. 49.

THE STORY OF "MINLACOWIE" began at Northbrook Creek, Dundas via Fernvale in the Brisbane Valley where Derrick and Pam's Children were 4th generation on the property.

The name "Minlacowie" is Aboriginal for 'sweet water' and was chosen because of the beautiful, sweet water of Northbrook Creek that ran through the property descending from the beautiful Mt Glorious above it. The name was registered in 1967 as Stud no. 49 and so began a Stud which has been extremely successful in the Droughtmaster breed over this time.

Foundation females were sourced from Charraboon and Belview Studs. The first sires purchased were Charraboon Grand and Inimical.

Soon after, began a very long valued association and friendship with Frank and Val Hodgson, principles of the renowned Wingfield Stud. The Spann's purchased many Wingfield females over the years and also a sire that made a huge impact on the Stud, Wingfield Giles.

Giles went on to Sire Minlacowie Moses, arguably one of the most influential Sires within the breed.

Moses infused generations of great Droughtmaster genetics which included one of his best retained son's Millionaire, who then went on to sire Wingfield Boris who then produced Droughtmaster National Top Priced Sire Wingfield Noah, who was purchased by the Minlacowie Stud. All of these sires were show Champions which also included Royal and Feature show champions. These genetics have all had a huge influence on the Stud with generations of outstanding producing female lines.

With the passing of longtime friend and Stud Master extraordinaire Frank Hodgson, Derrick and Pam were given the opportunity to purchase the entire Wingfield Stud herd along with the brand and the prefix. The Studs combined have been two of the most successful vendors at Society Sponsored Sales - topping the Gympie Female Sale on numerous occasions, the Roma Droughtmaster Sale and also topping the Droughtmaster National Sale for a record nine times including the Breed record price of \$70,000 with Minlacowie Gian in 2003, and also sons to \$100,000

Wingfield Cagney (Moses) 2007 and Minlacowie Lexington in 2008.

Derrick has made many contributions to the Breed over the years dedicating his time serving on the Board for many years. Derrick judged at many shows as well including Royal and Feature Shows. One of his most memorable of all was the honour of being asked to judge a prominent show in Bangkok in Thailand. Derrick and Pam were both treated like royalty during their visit to Thailand and made lifelong friends from the experience.

Derrick and Pam also had a very long association with the Beenleigh High School and the Adopt-a-School programme. They donated a cow and calf to the school with the calf, Minlacowie Karfy, going on to be very successful in the showing as well as a stud sire in his own right.

The studs are now situated in the Callide Valley of Central Queensland under the management of daughter, Nicole, and son Jason and his wife Samantha, and continue to make their mark on the Droughtmaster breed.

Contributed by Derrick & Pam Spann and Nicole Mills



Derrick Spann presenting General Prem, Prime Minister of 8 years, gifts from the Droughtmaster Society