

Naming Your Cattle

by Sally Horrell



The heritage of the Beef Shorthorn breed stretches back 200 years which the Society is celebrating in 2022 and some of those animals alive today will be able to trace their pedigree back to the beginning. Before the days of databases and computers, this would have been done through the many Volumes of the Coates's Herd Book and the animals names played an important part in knowing their origins.

This is still important today and we can see at dispersal sales where breeders will be chasing particular female breeding lines. With this in mind naming the cattle in your herd needs thought and an understanding of the heritage of the breed.

The first part of the process is registering a prefix for your herd. In general, it is more accepted to use a geographical name which will anchor the herd to a part of the country, farm, valley or village. If a prefix has previously been allocated, it is not possible to use that one again which keeps the herd specific to the breeder.

In the excitement of having your first calf to register it can be tempting to rush in with

a creative and dynamic offering but there are a few factors that need to be observed and some that may become part of the practicalities of names in your herd in the future. So here are a few pointers.

Naming Females

Family lines are important and give a good indication of the animals breeding lines so the advice would be to retain this as part of subsequent generations.

Before modern day techniques of recording performance some cow family names were considered to be so important within the breed for their milk or fleshing prowess that the cow names became 'protected' and to this day can only be used for animals descended from those lines.

Some of those names can still be found in current bloodlines such as Broadhooks, Clipper, Lancaster, Millicent, Nonpareil, Princess Royal, Rothes, Secret, Ury Maid

Name: **PODEHOLE REUBEN**

Herdbook No: **683802099**

Ear No: **UK229787-200431**

Polled: **POLLED_CELTIC=N/N, POLLED_FRIESIAN_51D=Pf/Pf**

Dob: **24 February 2021**

Colour: **Roan**

Myostatin: **E226X=0, F94L=0, NT419=0, NT821=0**

Pedigree Certificate

Sex: **Male**

Issued in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 for intra-community trade. Updated genetic evaluation information is available on www.beefshorthorn.org

Sire: **643805333 (UK229787-300292) PODEHOLE MAGICIAN (P)**
b. 2018

Dam: **633804985 (UK229787-500273) PODEHOLE DORA LOVE (P) (ET) GP 80**
b. 2017



563801260 (UK582662-603161) CHAPELTON CLANSMAN (P)

b. 2009

583800446 (UK222678-700386) PODEHOLE HERMIONE EXCEPTION (H) VG 87

b. 2011

JSNK274 (JSNK274) ROYALLA ROCKSTAR K274 (AUS) (P)

b. 2014

JOBDL074 (JOBDL074) MARELLAN DORA 8074L

b. 2008

UK540307-700030-48 GLENISLA RANNOCH R030 (P) 97.65%
523800652 (UK523524-400838) CAVANS YANKEE Y838 (H)
523524-300004-47 (UK523524-300004) CAVANS PRINCESS ROYAL (H) 78.

503801433 (UK582662-100993) CHAPELTON WELCOME (P) (ET)
523800259 (UK582662-201834) CHAPELTON DUCHESS (P)
493801124 (UK682662-400779) CHAPELTON DUCHESS 779 (P) (ET)

IAWV12 (IAWV12) BELMORE FUEL INJECTED V12 (P)
523800798 (UK540247-400208) TROJAN OF CRAIGEASSIE (P)
503801317 (UK540247-100100) KATHLEEN OF CRAIGEASSIE (H)

503801827 (UK222678-500069) PODEHOLE HERMIONE WENDY (H)
K0200-02633-46 (UKK0200-02633) CHAPELTON PROMOTER (H) 75.00%
P0368-00648-46 (UKP0368-00648) DERRYAGE PLEASANT HERMIONE (H)

JSNG404 ROYALLA OSTENTATIOUS G404 AUS (P)
JOBBJ065 MARELLAN REDWING J6065 (AUS) (P)

AGFZ103 WEEBOLLABOLLA ZULU (AUS) (P)
JOBDL087 MARELLAN MITZI 8087L AUS (P)
JOBZH029 MARELLAN MITZI 4029 AUS (P)

X-(AUS)M9503953 WEEBOLLABOLLA QUILPIE Q18
X-(CAN)M471844 (IMP 844H) WFFROI I AROLIA THEODORE T85 (P)
X-(AUS)F9305877 WEEBOLLABOLLA NINDETHANA

98C04342 MOOMBI WARLORD T56 (P)
APCW184 INVERARY DORA W184 (P)
94X05161 REDMARLEY DORA P31 AUS (P)

This is to certify that the animal for which this certificate is issued has been registered in Coates's Herd Book.

The pedigree information printed on this certificate is as supplied by the Breeder. The responsibility for the accuracy of the information therefore rests solely with the breeder and not with the Beef Shorthorn Cattle Society. If a pedigree name is listed with a percentage, the figure relates to the portion of pure Shorthorn, whilst the remainder is Maine Anjou which was approved by the Society in the breed improvement programme. No animal born after January 1st 2001 is listed with a percentage. Please contact the Society for details.

Breeder: Harry Horrell (trading as C Horrell Ltd)
(749) Pode Hole Farm
Thorney
Peterborough
Cambs
PE6 0QH

Owner:

DOCILE • FERTILE • EASY CALVING • HARDY • EASY CARE • PREMIUM BEEF • NATURAL FORAGERS • PROFITABLE • MILKY • LONG LIVED

and Wildeyes to name a few. The full list of protected names is on the Society website and you can only use one of these names in your cow name if it is descended from those bloodlines.

Your heifer calf should then have an individual name or identity number as part of its registered name. The individual animal name should start with the letter designated for that year. In 2022, it will be the letter 'S'.

So, if the dam of your cow is Stoneleigh Foxglove and your prefix is Ayrswater the following options could be used:

- A. Ayrswater Foxglove Susan
- B. Ayrswater Foxglove 1st
- C. Ayrswater Foxglove 123 (or whatever the last three or four digits of the ear tag number are).

If you have a small herd using an individual name starting with the year letter can be useful as it gives a guide to the animals

age and can be more recognisable, but if you have a larger herd finding say 20 heifer calves individual names when the year letter is 'X' can be challenging.

The individual name can never be a 'protected' name. The Society's registration system will block a protected name and the office will contact you if need be.

If you are using the numbering system b. Ayrswater Foxglove 1st, subsequent calves from any of the Foxglove line would be 2nd, 3rd, 4th etc irrespective of which generation they calved from.

Naming Males

It is advisable that bull calves are named with the year letter. It makes it easily recognisable from which year the calf was born and who its cohorts might be. The majority of bull calves will be named using this system. So, for example in 2022, a bull calf out of Stoneleigh Foxglove could be Ayrswater Sergeant.

The year letters run alphabetically but the letters i o q v are not used. This is because historically the year letter was tattooed in the calf's ear and those letters were easily confused with others in the alphabet when over time the tattoo became less clear.

Whatever naming system you decide to use it is a good idea to then stick with that so that other breeders can identify your animals breeding lines too.

It is also worth remembering when you give any animal a name that it will appear in a pedigree for four generations and a number of years will have passed, so a very topical name may seem very out of place in years to come.

The heritage of our breed is an important part of its provenance and the name you give your animal should be one you can be proud of. So, when your youngest offspring suggest you call the new calf 'spotty ears' or after their favourite TV character or some such it might be wise to desist!