



## Lardner Park Grass-Fed Steer Trial 2008

The objective of this trial, run each year, is to produce a pair of grass-fed steers, of the same breed or cross-breed, with a finished carcass weight of 210 - 270 kgs Hot Standard Carcass Weight and 5 - 14 mm of fat at the P8. It is run as a learning exercise to provide information on the growth and carcass attributes of breeds and to assist producers' understanding of live steer assessment, market requirements and steer growth and fattening relative to pasture production. Forty-five percent of the marks are for weight gain and 55% for carcass assessment with the winner being the best combined score for the pair. In June, Elandra Park entered a pair of Australian Lowline/Angus and Colombo Park a pair of Australian Lowline/Poll Herefords sired by Zaccaria.

There were 18 pairs in the trial, all run together, all under the same conditions, on the excellent pastures of the field day site near Warragul (average annual rainfall of 1,000mm - although they didn't get that this year).

We did not have high hopes for our Australian Lowline crosses in the weight gain segment as we were competing against Euro crosses and composite pairs from some very experienced steer

breeders. However the Colombo Park pair came a creditable 7th and impressed other breeders in that they were obviously finished and ready to go a month before the trial ended.

**Above left:**

*Before*

**Below right:**

*After*

**Lynda**

**Senger-Whitehead**

**of Colombo Park**

**and Jane Ristrom of**

**Elandra Park opened**

**the opposition eyes.**

Lowlines are fast finishers.

The big surprise for the other breeders was the carcass assessment in December. The Colombo Park pair came second - beaten only by an Angus/South Devon pair and one of the Elandra Park pair had the highest score in the meat quality segment of the Meat Standards Australia Beef Carcass Judging System (ABCAS).

This is a well run trial which allows you to test your breeding program. Some participants enter two pairs from different sires for comparison. We were well paid at a \$3.60 per kg HSCW for the top scoring carcasses down to \$3.20 with the average being about \$3.50.

**-Lynda Senger-Whitehead**



# WANAMARA LOWLINE STUD

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## Wanamara Findon Royale

2006 Royal Melbourne Show: Junior Champion Bull,

Small Breed Interbreed Junior Champion Bull

2007 Royal Sydney Show :

Junior Champion Bull, Grand Champion Bull

2007 Bendigo National Beef :

Junior Champion Bull, Grand Champion Bull, Supreme Exhibit

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## Wanamara Guinness

2008 Royal Sydney Show: Junior Champion Bull

2008 Bendigo National Beef: Junior Champion Bull

2008 Royal Adelaide Show:

Senior Champion Bull.

Grand Champion Bull, Supreme Exhibit

2008 Royal Melbourne Show:

Reserve Senior Champion Bull

SUPPLYING QUALITY STUD & COMMERCIAL  
BULLS & FEMALES AT REALISTIC PRICES.  
LICENSED SEMEN & EMBRYOS AVAILABLE  
FROM OUR CHAMPION GENETICS  
FOR LOCAL & OVERSEAS MARKETS

**CHAMPION  
GENETICS**