



LIMOUSIN

SOUTH AFRICA



MUCH MORE

TELER FOKUS *Breeder Focus*

My name is Mathato Aumane and I am a small farmer who started farming around Ladybrand in 2014. I left this area because of the stock theft that occurred especially since covid-19 started. At present I am farming with someone else who owns a farm in Steynsrus, with 50 head of cattle of which 18 are mixed breeds. For breeding purposes I am currently only using a Limousin bull.

I have decided to farm with Limousins for the following reasons:

I have been farming with other breeds such as the Santa Gertrudis, Bonsmara and Nguni's. I had 2 bulls - a Nguni and a Bonsmara. I always ensure that I have 2/3 dairy cows because they take care of other breeds that have calves. I decided to specialize with the Limousin after visiting a colleague's farm to see what beautiful animals they are. I have purchased a small herd of Limousins. I am still in the learning phase and would appreciate any assistance from those who have been farming Limousins.

1. Are you cross breeding the Limousins or are you using them for stud purposes?

I am currently going to start cross breeding with the Limousin.

2. What advantages do the Limousins have in your crossbreeding program?

I am yet to see the results of the cross breeding with the Limousin bull.





4. What is the purpose of Limousins in your herd?

I have considered the Boran breed, because it was the breed that I was introduced to whilst growing up. The hump from the bull has always fascinated me. Many farmers in South Africa are also farming with this type of cattle. With the other breeds that I keep, I have realized that their cross with a Limousin bull will make good calves. I recently had visitors from BKB Louwid and they recommended that I get a red coloured bull so that there would be more fat in the beef alternatively I must stick with my current breed, if I want grow in stud animals in the future.

5. Do you struggle with calving problems, or do you feel that your calving problems have bettered after using the Limousins in your herd?

Limousins are the best breed when it comes calving problems as they have an easy calving ease and have enough milk for their calves.

6. What do you look for when you decide to buy a Limousin and why?

A bull must have good conformation, good bone, level top line, well sprung ribs, good hind quarters, up on his feed and poll.

7. How do you keep records of your animals and calvings?

Currently I do not keep any calving records, but I would like to start doing it.

8. Any advice for commercial or registered breeders?

I think the single most advice to any farmer is that you never stop learning. I read more about breeding online especially from Australia because they have put a lot of information on their official sites and are on another level in their extension services.



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