

# The Blonde Banner

The Official Publication of the Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association  
May 2007



In my last report a year ago, I had predicted that “we will see substantial increases in prices for cows throughout the year.” Well, the Cream of the Crop Sale in October certainly confirmed my prediction at least for Blonde Cattle. It was one of the best sales we have had in many years. For your information, 57 lots sold for an average price of \$1856.00. Top bull sold for \$5500, top cow for \$2300, top bull calf for \$2300, top cow-calf pair \$2800, top bred heifer \$2700, top heifer calf \$1225, while the top open heifer sold for \$1450. This almost felt like the good old days. And now, I will give you the same prediction for 2007 - that Blonde animals will continue to do well, as more and more

breeders recognize the attributes of the breed and as programs like Gencor's and Laura's Lean come on stream.

For me personally, the opportunity to visit 16 different Blonde Breeders across the province was certainly the highlight of the year. As part of the selection committee of the Cream of the Crop sale, Dave McNevan and I had a fabulous occasion meeting with some great people who believe in this breed and have tremendous pride in their herds.

The Ontario Blonde Association continued to be very busy throughout the year as you will see from the different committee reports. Not only have we supported our 4H members, but we have also provided financial support for both show people as well as members with animals on test. As well, the Association had booths at the Ottawa Valley farm Show, the East Central show in Peterborough and the IPM. Our booth at the IPM was certainly the most popular display in the tent we occupied and this success was due largely to the efforts of the super ticket sales people we had manning the booth. A very sincere thanks to these volunteers. The Blonde Breed was certainly well promoted.

Many of us over the past years have used EPD'S and performance evaluations in our selection of cows and herd sires and these will continue to be essential to the improvements of most herds, but as well, we must now take a closer look at Carcass Traits in our selection of herd Sires. We must now look at rib eye, fat, lean meat yield and as breeders, strive for more consistency within the breed. We must understand our markets and adjust our breeding to respond to these markets. We as an Association advertise that Blondes on average have the highest LMY within all breeds, let's make sure it stays that way by using the available data on carcass traits of herd sires.

*Marcel Lachance*

**RAFFLE HEIFER WANTED**

*The OBdAA is looking for a raffle heifer again for this year's draw. The draw will be held October 13, 2007, at the Cream of the Crop Sale. If you have a registered purebred or fullblood heifer, who will be bred at the time of the draw, that you would like to bring to the raffle heifer selection committee's attention, contact Iverne McGee at (705) 653 3160.*

# WHAT BLONDE BULLS ARE ALL ABOUT:

## ➤ SUPERIOR CARCASS TRAITS    ➤ LEAN MEAT YIELD

Mal Lar Acres had 6 Bulls on test in 2006-2007 in the Douglas, Ont. Bull test stations and the ultrasound results are:

- ✓ Average Lean Meat Yield: 68.4
- ✓ The highest Adj. Rib Eye of all Blonde Bulls on test in Canada in 2006-2007 is from this lot. MAL 1S AJD. REA: 17.9 sq. in.
- ✓ The average REA/100 lbs: 1.30

## ➤ CARCASS TRAITS YOU WANT IN YOUR HERD!

Some of these Bulls are now for sale: Double Polled Fullblood, Polled Fullblood, and Polled Purebred.

For Information, contact:

## MAL LAR ACRES

3558 Highway #7  
Norwood, Ont. K0L 2V0  
tel. 705-639-2183

E-MAIL: [marcel\\_lachance@sympatico.ca](mailto:marcel_lachance@sympatico.ca)

We would like to thank [Robert McKirdy](#) and [Allan & Teeny Plumton](#) for their purchase of two of these bulls.

QUALITY PRODUCTION SALE FOR

# Lavelaine Farms

Laverne and Elaine McGee, Campbellford, ON

**& Guest Consignors**

**Sat. Aug. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**HOARDS STATION SALE BARN**

50+ HEAD SELL - A quality offering of bred females and 2007 calves. *Blonde enthusiasts, mark your calendars now!!* This sale is worth your attention!! Lavelaine Farms: 705-653-3160 or 653-6308.

**COMPLETE SALES MANAGEMENT**

**For Sale Info: Dave or Sheila McNevan 705-295-6208**

*Catalogues upon request, or available sale day at ring side*

**Ontario Board of  
Directors:**

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jiv@reach.net

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(705) 876 0009 (phone)  
(705) 876 6661 (fax)  
  
www.ontarioblondes.ca



Important Information:

**Canadian Blonde d'Aquitaine  
Association**

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Corporation, 2417 Holly Lane, Ottawa,  
Ontario K1V 0M7  
Phone: 613-731-7110  
Fax: 613-731-0704  
E-Mail [cbda@clrc.ca](mailto:cbda@clrc.ca)  
[www.canadianblondeassociation.ca](http://www.canadianblondeassociation.ca)

**Canadian Livestock Records  
Corporation**

2417 Holly Lane  
Ottawa, Ont.  
K1V 0M7  
(613) 731-7110  
[www.clrc.ca](http://www.clrc.ca)

**Saskatchewan Research Council**

15 Innovation Rd.  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
S7N 2X8  
(306) 933-7700

**Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada**

[www.agr.gc.ca](http://www.agr.gc.ca)

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**2006 Rates for Advertising  
(GST extra)**

<b>Per Issue:</b>	
1 full page.....	\$40
3/4 page.....	\$35
1/2 page.....	\$25
1/4 page.....	\$15
Business cards.....	\$5
<b>Four Issues:</b>	
1 full page.....	\$120
3/4 page.....	\$105
1/2 page.....	\$75
1/4 page.....	\$45
Business cards.....	\$15

Upcoming Events:

OBdAA Annual Picnic  
July 22, 1 p.m.  
Location to be announced

Lavelaine Farms Production Sale  
August 4  
Hoards Station, Hoards Station, ON

Campbellford Fair (Blonde Show)  
August 12

Stirling Fair  
Aug. 17-20

Orono Fair (Durham Central Fair)  
Sept. 8

Warkworth Fair (Percy Township  
Agricultural Society)  
Sept. 9

International Plowing Match & Rural  
Expo (IPM)  
Frankville, ON  
Sept. 18-22

Lindsay Central Exhibition  
Sept. 22-23

Roseneath Fair  
Sept. 30

**NOTE:** The OBdAA reserves the right to edit any newsletter submissions for length and content suitability. The goals of this newsletter are:

To **inform** the membership of all the pertinent activities and initiatives being taken by the Association, the Association Board, or its members.

To **provide** educational information in order to assist Blonde breeders in all aspects of the seed stock industry.

To **promote** the Blonde d'Aquitaine breed and the members of the Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association.

# VAN BAKEL BLONDES

## Invitation

Come by to pick out  
your next Herdsire or  
Foundation cow

Calves available off  
the cow in the fall or  
can be BIO tested for  
spring pick-up.

AI SIRE'S Roseneath  
William WW Corby  
WSS Rex  
Bradbury Evan &  
More

Come See the Cows  
that Work.

Internet camera  
available



DRM 75R JT  
Northern Justin X Roseneath Tami

SOT	EOT	ADG	WPDA	FRAME	FAT	REA	SC
895	1360	4.32	3.33	6.5	2	15.0	36.0



VBB 75R REPUTATION  
Roseneath William 4W X Rheo Made to B Good 230M

SOT	EOT	ADG	WPDA	FRAME	FAT	REA	SC
1040	1345	2.83	3.15	7.3	3	18.2	39

Bred/Open  
Cows Available

Performance  
in Testing

Fullblood  
Rebred

Polled  
Horned

**Van Bakel Blondes**  
**RR #2, Dublin, ON, N0K 1E0**  
**[www.vanbakelblondes.ca](http://www.vanbakelblondes.ca) [vbb@ezlink.ca](mailto:vbb@ezlink.ca)**  
**519-345-2518**

## 2007 ROSS DIX MEMORIAL BURSARY



*John Dix awarding the 2006 Ross Dix Memorial Bursary to Rachel Vink, a third-year student at Guelph University.*

The Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Board is happy to announce the recent creation of the Ross Dix Memorial Bursary donated by his son, John Dix of Markdale, Ontario.

Throughout his lifetime, Ross Dix was known for his quiet willingness and helpful nature, exemplified wherever he went or whatever he did. He was continuously supportive of the Blonde breed and the Association.

On October 14, 2006, Rachel Vink, a student at Guelph University, became the first recipient of the \$500 bursary. She used the money to buy textbooks for her classes. Rachel has just finished her third year in Animal Biology at Guelph, with plans to obtain her degree next year.

### 2006 4-H Report:

Thirteen junior members showed Blonde calves as their 4-H projects in Ontario in 2006. Western Ontario, Central Ontario, and Eastern Ontario all saw Blonde calves being shown in the 4-H classes of their cattle shows at various fairs and exhibitions.

**Andrew Bunda, Ashley McNeven, Bill Blackburn, Brad Stein, Brittany Sears, Darren Vink, Dylan Thompson, Ian Vink, Jonathan Bouwmeester, Phillipa Marvin, Rachel Vink, Whitney Hawkins, and William Bunda** all received a full refund of their 2006 4-H provincial membership fees! Congratulations to all!

Many junior members also showed Blonde cattle at various shows and fairs throughout Ontario in 2006. Thanks to all for doing such a great job promoting Blondes!



### 4-H Award

The Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association is hoping to award \$100 to junior members who show a winning Blonde calf as their 4-H project. Here's how you can win:

A 4-H member with a Blonde calf project, who shows his or her calf at 2 fairs (minimum), and wins a first placing in a 4-H conformation class with a minimum of three animals in the ring, receives \$100 from the Ontario Blonde Association.

2. "Proof of winning" to be provided (with signatures of two adults such as 4-H leaders, judges, show organizers).

See the entry form for complete details. (Entry form available from the website, or by contacting Ilse Vink, 40 Gazley Rd. RR#1, Wooler, ON K0K 3M0)

Deadline for submitting entry form: Nov. 30, 2007.

## **Forty Acres Blondes**



**No butts about it!  
Constant winners!**

**2004-high gainer for all Canada**

**2006-high selling animal in the  
National Show & Sale**

**Animals for sales - Contact us!!!**

**We are serious about good cattle!  
But we would like you to have  
fun as well!  
Thank you to all who have purchased  
our animals over the years.**

**Don Mehler and Pat Filz  
Box 418  
Lampman, SK, S0C 1N0  
Home: (306) 634-2174  
Cell: (306) 421-6980  
fortyacresblondes@sasktel.net**

## Performance Report 2006 (reprinted from the Steve Acres' AGM report)

### 2006 – PRESIDENT'S CUP

The President's Cup is awarded to an Ontario Blonde member for the highest ranking Blonde d'Aquitaine bull finishing an Ontario BIO-evaluated test. The award promotes the use of whole herd recording and is based on the Beef Builder Index in the BIO system.

John and Beth Ferrier's Bull LRB 1R finished the test with a Beef Builder index of 3405. Congratulations to John and Beth, who are hereby recipients of the 2006 President's Cup.

### 2006 – THE TOP BLONDE BULL

The Top Blonde Bull award goes to an Ontario Blonde member in recognition of the individual achievement of a registered Bull on an Ontario BIO-evaluated test. The abull that ranks the most consistently in the following categories will be chosen as the winner:

- highest average daily gain(ADG minimum of 3.0 lbs/day) → an adjusted Rib eye with a minimum of 14.5 sq. in.
- an adjusted Scrotal Circumference with a minimum of 32 cm. → a positive EPD for Calving Ease

The Ontario Blonde Association is saddened to announce that we do not have a bull meeting these standards in 2006 to receive this award.

The Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association wishes to acknowledge the following members for their entries into bull test stations: Paul Ferguson, Matt Unger, Laverne McGee, Bill Stocks, Cleve Jessup, Rheo Machina (Douglas, Manitoba)

### 2006 HEIFER TEST

The Ontario Blonde Association wishes to acknowledge the following members for their entries into Heifer test stations: Dennis and Debbie Elliot, Rheo and Sharon Machina, Bill Van Bakel.

## Blonde-influence Stocker Sale!!

**The OBdAA is in the process of organizing a blonde-influence stocker sale in late October, in conjunction with Laura's Lean Beef and Gencor.**

**Laura's Lean Beef is an all natural program. LLB prefers at least 3/4 or higher exotic cross cattle which possess a high degree of muscle and leanness. Calves must be raised without growth hormones or antibiotics from birth. Calves must also be vaccinated and weaned over a 30-60 day period (target 45 days). Animals in the sale will have to meet Laura's Lean requirements. To find out more information about Laura's Lean Beef, check out [www.laurasleanbeef.ca](http://www.laurasleanbeef.ca).**

**Anyone interested in consigning animals please contact Marcel Lachance, (705) 639-2183.**

### **THANKS TO:**

- © The volunteers at the Ottawa Valley Farm Show and the Central Ontario Farm Show earlier this year.
- © The people who solicited donations to our fund-raising auction at the AGM this year. The OBdAA raised \$847 from the mini-auction at the AGM.
- © John and Debbie Plas for donating their winnings from the 50/50 draw at the 2006 AGM to our Junior members.
- © A huge thank-you to our retired board members Murphy Baker and Steve Acres. Your hard work and dedication was much appreciated!



*West Wind Blondes*  
**BLONDE D'AQUITAINE CATTLE**

*Specializing in*  
**FULLBLOODS, POLLED & HORNED**

WEB SITE: [www.telusplanet.net/public/westwind](http://www.telusplanet.net/public/westwind)  
EMAIL: [westwind@telusplanet.net](mailto:westwind@telusplanet.net)

**S. BILTON**

**M. FLESCH**

Box 334, Stavely, AB T0L 1Z0  
Phone (403) 549-2371  
Fax (403) 549-2374



## 2006 Show Results!

2006 was an interesting showing season. With some seasoned show competitors taking a break, the field was wide open for new and experienced competitors alike.

Premier Exhibitor went to **Knox Innovations**, beating the competition by almost 100 points. Congratulations to **Ken Knox, and Ian and Jenny Kruis**, and their show crew Kevin, Alex, and Kristin.

Grand Champion Male went to **Vaupré Ron**, owned by **Knox Innovations**.



*Vaupré Ron, 2006 Grand Champion Male*

Grand Champion Female was awarded to **Hanover Sweetpea**, owned by **Hilltop Orchard Farms**. Congratulations and thank-you to all who showed this past year: **Vanderham Farms, Mal-lar Acres, Knox Innovations, Hilltop Orchard Farms, and Halcyon Farms**.

We look forward to another great showing season this year. If you have not showed before, or are no longer showing, consider doing so (again) this year. Not only is it a lot of fun, you will meet many great people in and out of the showing.



*Hanover Sweet Pea, 2006 Grand Champion Female*

*Mark your calendars for  
the OBdAA Annual  
Family Day Picnic!!!*

**July 22, 2007  
1 p.m.**

*More details (such as  
location!) to follow...*



### **Dovecote Blondes**

**John and Debbie Plas**

2254 Jerseyville Rd,  
RR#1 Jerseyville, ON, L0R 1R0  
905-648-5437  
dplas@sympatico.ca

# The Ontario Blonde d'Aquitaine Association's

## 7<sup>th</sup> Annual 'Cream of the Crop' Sale

to be held October 13, 2007  
7 p.m. at Hoard's Station

- We are looking for quality animals to put in the Sale.
- This is a Sale to put your best animals into, to get the recognition your herd deserves. A selection committee will visit your farm before the sale, to confirm your choices. Up to 6 lots per farm will be considered. The animals must be 8 yrs of age or younger. (1999+)
- The Association would like to see as many consignors as possible, to make the sale of interest to established and new buyers alike.
- If you are interested in consigning, use the entry form provided in this flyer, or contact Marcel Lachance by phone at (705) 639-2183.

???

*Let us know whether  
you prefer the sale at  
2, 4, or 7 p.m.*

### Show your pride in your herd at this "Cream of the Crop" Sale!!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone:(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Lot #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (d/m/y)

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Lot #1: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (d/m/y)

Send to: Marcel Lachance, 3558 Highway #7, RR#3, Norwood, ON, K0L 2V0  
or email: marcel\_lachance@sympatico.ca