



Ladnier cow owned by Jess Brown
Photo Courtesy of Ryan Schaffer

FROM THE PINEYWOODS

Volume 7 Number 2 - April 2010

Conserving the Pineywoods

Newsletter of the Pineywoods Cattle Registry & Breeders Association

Membership Bulletin

April 2010 Auction



Dedicated to our friend Dr. Bob Rhoades, PCRBA member and Distinguished Professor of Agricultural Anthropology at the University of Georgia.

From Edie Varnado. I thought the auction went great. There was a definite sense of optimism, and I think that the sale will continue to grow from here. The exciting event of the day was the Diamond/Griffin cross bull bred by Mr. Fred Diamond that sold for \$1000. The concession stand with grilled Pineywoods burgers and beans and rice with Pineywoods beef was a huge success. The cattle looked great and, except for a few rodeo heifers that sneaked in, presented quite well. There were several vendors there, which added to the atmosphere, tables of info and of products (from handmade soap to jarred soup mix to PCRBA caps and t-shirts). Having ALBC there was encouraging and showed their support of PCRBA.

PS to Membership:

From Julie Brown. When you send in your dues, please include your current address, phone, and e-mail.

From Justin Pitts. Please pay dues to ensure registration of your cattle and maintenance of past registries.

Call for Contributions to the Newsletter

Dear Friends of Pineywoods,

Since many of us are separated from personal contact by distance and time, the newsletter and the website are sometimes our only continuous methods of keeping in touch. Anything of interest relating to Pineywoods is of interest to newsletter readers: history, breeding, techniques, marketing, events, poetry, photos, and other topics we haven't thought of yet. Please consider contributing a few minutes of your time to share the experience of PW involvement and breeding with your community.

The summer newsletter goes to press the second week of each quarter—January, April, July, and October and will accept articles as late as the 19th. You don't need to submit a finished product--just sketch out some ideas, add maybe a photo or two, and we can work up the text. You can mail, email, or dictate by phone to Bonnie Fritz, PCRBA newsletter editor, 467 Decatur Ave., Staten Island, NY 10314, 404-314-3020, bfritz@gsu.edu.

Thank-You's Are in Order to

Tad Brown, a graduate student and member of the new PW generation, for his PW song. Tad will soon join his wife in Africa where both are pursuing their studies in heritage agriculture,

Edie Varnado for her professional and attractive media and marketing contributions, especially the Sales Catalog,

Ryan Schaffer who is collecting photos of each strain for the website,

Justin Pitts for another historical auction,

And to PCRBA Officers, Board Members, and Staff who provide the muscle and backbone of our organization.

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Contributors' Column

Tad Brown writes:

During my studies at the University of Georgia, I have read about folk life in Mississippi. I wrote this short 'song' about the history I learned. Maybe the readers will find it to their liking.

It's the least I can do for how kind everyone has been to me.

Regards, T. Brown

Pineywoods

By Tad Brown

Can any ya'll recall the days before the war

When plain folks sat and smoked,
into fiddle tunes tore?

Back before they boxed the pines,
For the stores and turpentine,
When oxen grazed on the wiregrass.

Then 'long came the carpetbaggers,
Drove out the bullwhip crackers,
Laid down the longleaf with the tracks.

Down in the bottoms stood
number-one commons
And the peckerwood yoked a second
swing.

Freed slaves came for steady wage;
Bilbo gave the Hills a say,
But only Atchafalaya can save New
Orleans.

Natchez snobs and cotton bolls
Keep to your Black Belt soils
We down in the Pineywoods have it
made.
Don't need those British breeds,
Just a little corn and lots of trees—
Sit, nip whiskey in the long straw shade.

Request for Information

The information below is posted on the PCRBA website and represents what we know about these lines. If you have any photos or information about any of these or other lines, we would like to include it in the newsletter and on the web.

Pineywoods Cattle – Ladnier Line



Ladnier cow owned by Jess Brown
Photo Courtesy of Ryan Schaffer

Ladnier cattle are large and rangy, rather than short and blocky. These are closely related to Hickman cattle, and have nearly the same appearance for type as well as colors.

Pineywoods Cattle – The Dedeaux Line

The Dedeaux cattle are somewhat similar to Broadus cattle, with moderate horn and blocky body conformation. The Dedeaux cattle include some guinea cattle, which is a proportionate dwarf type valued for easy fattening.

Dedeaux and Broadus cattle ranged close to Hickman cattle, but had very little to no mixing with that line. They remain a different body type and horn type. The present Dedeaux herd is greatly reduced from that of the past.

Dedeaux cattle have moderate horn and a generally small, blocky body conformation. In the original herd there were many guineas. The cattle are mostly red, with a few brindle cattle as well.

■ Phil Sponenberg