



ZIMBABWE HERD BOOK

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National Breed Sale 2021

The 53rd Annual National Breed Sale hosted by Zimbabwe Herd Book (ZHB) and held on 28th July 2021 was a showstopper!

In his opening address, the Chairman of the ZHB, John Crawford, succinctly summed up the preparations for the day and is included below:

Good morning ladies and gentlemen,
Welcome to the 2021 National Breed Sale

This year we are very aware of the severity of COVID-19, please be careful, not just for your own good, but for your loved ones at home.

Before I start, please could we honour those friends or family who have lost their lives to COVID- 19, and hold a moment's silence - Thank you

Last year was tough, but tough has just got tougher.
We are, however, Zimbabweans and are resilient, tolerant and extremely well prepared to overcome challenges.
As difficult as it may be, please stop, take note of what we have learnt through this period, and be grateful for the blessings we have received.

There are many people involved in the preparation for today.

Our thanks go to:

The staff from ZHB, for getting the catalogue prepared, including the Estimated Breeding Values, a valuable tool to assist with selecting your bulls.

CC Sales for the venue, and your committed staff.

Swiftvee for your services with the Online Bidding.

Catering, thank you to all those involved in keeping us fed and watered.

A special thank you to the Buyers, your attendance is essential, and we hope you have a memorable day and many years of happiness breeding with your purchases today. Remember your budget is only a guideline, we are happy to help you explain to your spouses!

The breeders, we salute you, this is an extremely LONG-TERM project, and your commitment to the Zimbabwean cattle industry is truly admirable.

These cattle are amongst the best in the region and could hold their own anywhere in the world. I am proud to be amongst the Zimbabwean cattlemen and women.

All cattle here have been visually inspected and my thanks are extended to Oom Japie Jackson who has been doing the national inspections for 16 years. I have had the privilege of doing it with him for the last 13 years. We so look forward to our Annual Tour, meeting with you breeders learning from your experiences and viewing your animals.

Oom Japie will be turning 90 years YOUNG next month and although he wanted to be at the Sale today, he was advised to keep safe and watch online. I thank my special friend Oom Japie for all the hours of information that has flowed into my ears.

There was a good turnout of buyers and sellers as well as a strong following of both buyers and interested parties online. According to SwiftVee statistics, the National Breed Sale was widely followed on online by 11 bidders and 3,346 viewers.

An exceptional yarding of two Boer Goat bucks, 70 bulls and 85 heifers representing eight beef breeds were on offer.

While there were no buyers for the two excellent Boer Goat bucks that started the Sale, the prices for Brahman heifers that followed opened firmly and remained firm for subsequent lots of bulls and heifers.

However, when Lot 130, a Brahman bull belonging to Mr Odendaal, entered the ring from the closing group of Brahman bulls, bidding was fervent and a price of ZWL 3.6 million (USD 24,828) secured the bull for an online buyer. Four bulls later, Lot 134, 18/36RV from the Ruvale Brahman stud, fetched the same price of ZWL 3.6 million. This set the tone for the rest of the Sale as prices remained firm and demand for the remaining Brahman bulls and heifers on offer was high.

The average price of the bulls was ZWL 750,368, equivalent to USD 5,175, being 52% higher than last year's average of USD 3,395. The average heifer price was ZWL 261,446 (USD 1,803) as shown in Table 1.

The Brahmans stole the Sale with average bull and heifer prices of ZWL 940,929 (USD 6,489) and ZWL 303,269 (USD 2,092), respectively (Table 2).

Demand for Beefmaster bulls was firm, averaging ZWL 724,167 (USD 4,994) and achieving a high of ZWL 1.0 million (USD 6,897) from the Pilosoff's Ruvale Beefmaster Stud.

Table 1. Number of stud animals sold (No) and average prices (ZWL and USD equivalent) obtained at the Zimbabwe Herd Book National Breed Sale 2009 to 2021

Year	No	Bulls		No	Heifers	
		ZWL	USD		ZWL	USD
2009	127		2,129	58		1,430
2010	130		2,915	75		1,635
2011	100		3,235	55		1,263
2012	113		2,964	75		1,516
2013	107		3,340	61		1,496
2014	93		3,244	54		1,522
2015	65		3,064	18		936
2016	71		3,053	41		1,235
2017	89	4,518	3,012	49	2,478	1,652
2018	99	6,719	3,054	71	3,593	1,633
2019	97	32,263	3,226	105	14,938	1,494
2020	55	339,455	3,395	87	173,011	1,730
2021	68	750,368	5,175	83	261,446	1,803

Table 2. Number of stud animals and average prices obtained by breed at the Zimbabwe Herd Book National Breed Sale 2021

Breed	No	Bulls		No	Heifers	
		ZWL	USD		ZWL	USD
Beefmaster	6	724,167	4,994	11	206,364	1,423
Boran	11	465,909	3,213	6	266,667	1,839
Brahman	38	940,921	6,489	52	303,269	2,092
Nkone	2	300,000	2,069			
Simbra	4	481,250	3,319	5	133,000	917
Simmental	5	475,000	3,276	3	165,000	1,138
Tuli	2	450,000	3,103	6	150,000	1,034
Total	68	750,368	5,175	83	261,446	1,803

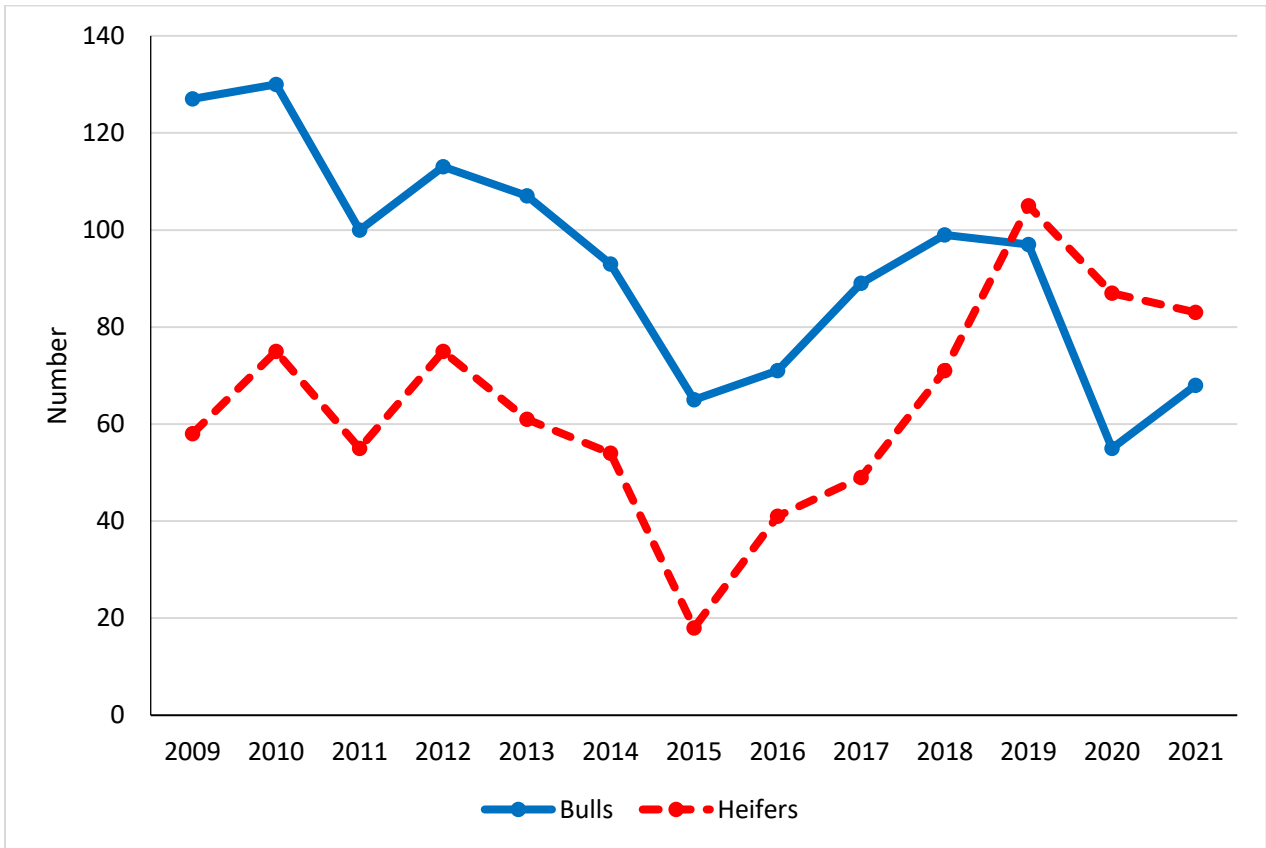


Figure 1. Number of bulls and heifers sold at the National Breed Sale, 2009 to 2021

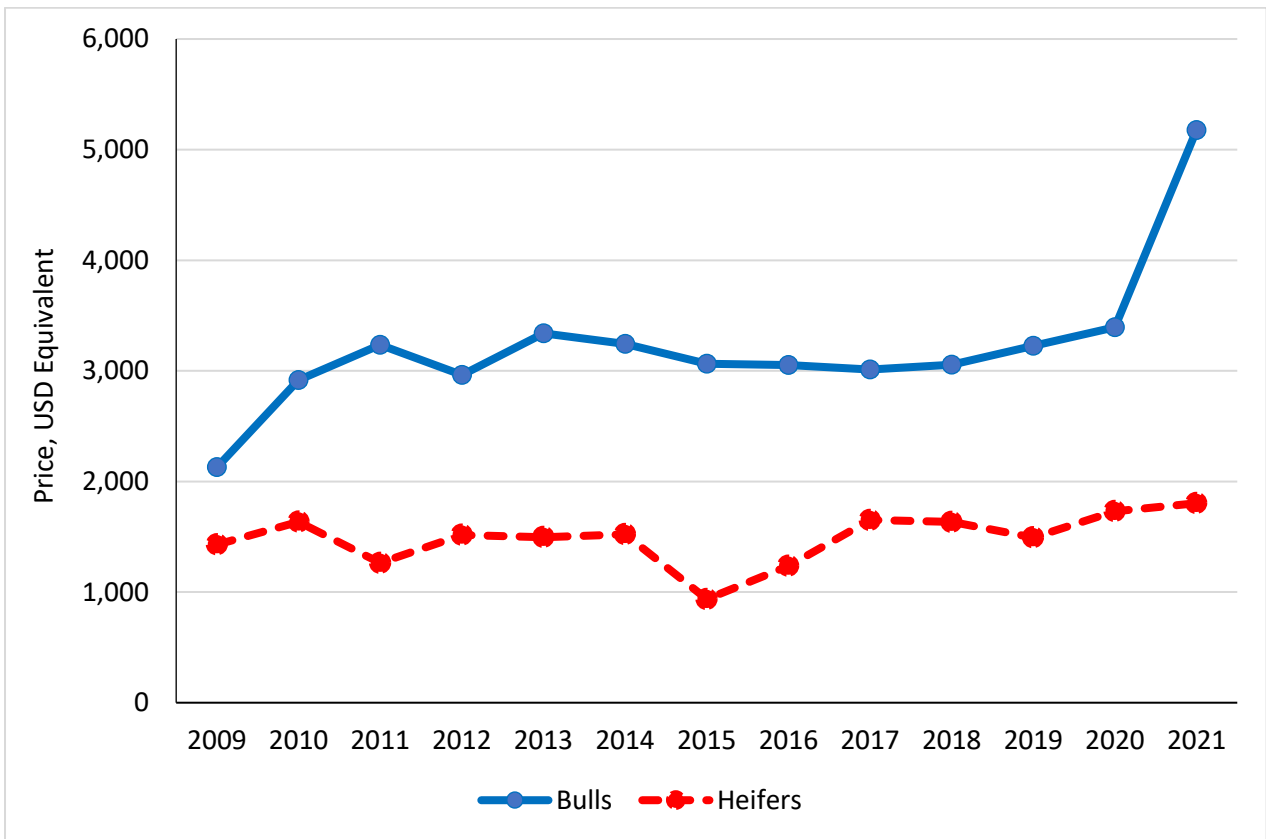


Figure 2. Average USD equivalent price of bulls and heifers sold at the National Breed Sale, 2009 to 2021