



ZIMBABWE HERD BOOK

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Zimbabwe Herd Book Awards 2021

At the Beef School held earlier this month, the Herd Book presented its Awards for the first time.

Three categories were chosen: Housekeeping, Performance Recorded and Fertility.

See below for detailed notes about the Awards and criteria used to evaluate studs.

Zimbabwe Herd Book extends sincere congratulations to the following recipients:

Housekeeping Awards

Bronze:	3rd Place	Irene Belinsky	Bell-Inn Droughtmaster
Silver:	2nd Place	Philip Reed	Anivai Tuli and Reed Brahman
Gold:	1st Place	Lorna Joubert	Luipaardsvlei Brahman

Completeness of Performance Recording Awards

Tuli - Oscar Johnson, Jambo Tuli Stud, 4.5 Star Rating

Brahman – Dr Themba Dlodlo, Nguni Brahman Stud, 4.0 Star Rating

Fertility Awards

	<u>#cows*</u>	<u>AFC</u>	<u>ACI</u>	<u>Breeder</u>	<u>Stud</u>
3rd	38	35	404	Dr Themba Dlodlo	Nguni Brahmans
2nd	12	35	403	Wayne Greaves	Enondo Brahmans
1st	160	32	391	Lianne Herbst	Herbst Simbrahs

** Number of cows with two or more calves*

National Foods Limited proudly sponsored a prize of five tonnes of feed of Lianne's choice.



Housekeeping Awards

This Award was adjudicated by the ZHB staff and was based on communications, timeliness and completeness of returns.

10 points each were awarded for the following 7 criteria: Communications; Birth Notifications within 60days; Sales and Transfers Notifications within 30days, Completeness of Submission of DNA Samples; Return of Levy Lists; Levy Payments and Inspection Returns.

Completeness of Performance Recording Awards

The BreedPlan “Completeness of Performance” herd rating system assesses the quantity of pedigree and performance information that has been submitted to BreedPlan by an individual seedstock herd.

This assessment is restricted to Breeds for which Breed Runs (i.e. genetic evaluations [EBV’s]) have been performed and this year, only Tuli (since 2010) and Brahman herds (commencing in June 2021) were eligible for this Award.

The “Completeness of Performance” Star Rating provides both seedstock and commercial producers with an assessment of how much performance data has been submitted to BreedPlan by a herd.

The Star Rating for a herd is calculated based on the proportion of calves within the herd born in a fixed 5-year period for which performance data has been submitted for each trait. Different criteria are used within breeds, depending on the traits for which EBV’s are calculated within the breed.

Each herd receives a Star Rating on a 0 – 5 scale (including half stars) that summarises the relative “completeness” of their performance data.

Herds were assessed on the following criteria:

Animal Details (birth date, sex, sire, dam)	60 points
Fertility traits	40
Birth traits	40
Weight Traits	60
Total	200 points

The table below notes the description of each star rating.

Star Rating	Description
5 > 165 points	Herds with a Star Rating of 5 are Gold standard. Complete performance information has been recorded on BreedPlan for all animals across all traits for which EBVs are available.
4 or 4.5 136 – 165 points	Herds with a Star Rating of 4 or 4.5 are Silver standard. Comprehensive performance information has been recorded on BreedPlan for most animals and traits, but less performance data is recorded than for a 5 Star herd.

3 or 3.5 106 – 135 points	Herds with a Star Rating of 3 or 3.5 are considered Bronze standard. Performance data is recorded on BreedPlan for a reasonable number of traits or animals, but less performance data is recorded than for a 4 or 5 Star herd.
2.5 or less < 106 points	Herds with a Rating of 2.5 or less are recording information on BreedPlan but not for all animals or traits. Less performance data is recorded than for a 3, 4 or 5 Star herd.

Tuli

14 Tuli herds participated in recent breed runs with an average Star Rating of 2.6 (see below). Ten herds had Star Ratings below 3, while three had Star Ratings between 3 and 3.5 and one herd had a Star Rating of 4.5.

Star Rating	No Herds	No Animals	Animal Details	Fertility Traits	Birth Traits	Weight Traits	Total Score	Star Rating
All herds	14	72	55	2	30	13	101	2.6
1.0 - 2.5	10	50	51	0	28	4	84	2.1
3.0 - 3.5	3	86	58	6	31	27	121	3.3
4.0 - 4.5	1	197	59	14	40	42	155	4.5

Brahman

60 Brahman herds participated in recent breed runs with an average Star Rating of 2.1 (see below). Fifty-six herds had Star Ratings below 3, while three had Star Ratings between 3 and 3.5 and one herd had a Star Rating of 4.0.

Star Rating	No Herds	No Animals	Animal Details	Fertility Traits	Birth Traits	Weight Traits	Total Score	Star Rating
All herds	60	28	55	1	25	4	84	2.1
1.0 - 2.5	56	28	55	1	25	2	82	2.0
3.0 - 3.5	3	23	52	5	29	30	116	3.2
4.0 - 4.5	1	54	58	22	24	36	139	4.0

Fertility Awards

Fertility was adjudicated across breeds based on the lowest inter-calving period (ICP) and according to the following criteria:

- Limited to own-bred animals;
- Minimum of 10 cows with 2 or more calves; and
- Average Age at First Calving (AFC) less than 44 months.

118 studs had fertility records with average AFC and ACP of 44 months and 478 days, respectively. After applying the above criteria, 60 herds had average AFC and ACP of 38 months and 497 days, respectively.