



Chris Clemson, James McCormack, Dennis Power, Minnamurra, buyer of \$32,000 Te Mania Model M1204, Hamish McFarlane and Paul Dooley.

Te Mania hits \$32,000

BY MARK GRIGGS

IT WAS marbling performance and meat quality traits that drew more than 150 people to the Te Mania Angus northern bull sale at Walgett last Tuesday, which cleared all 94 bulls to top at \$32,000 and average \$6915.

Long-term client and Minnamurra Pastoral Company General Manager Dennis Power of Cortina, Mudgee, outlasted strong bidding for the sale-topping, Te Mania Model M1204. The son of Te Mania Jenkins J89 boasted all \$Index values in the top one per cent of the Angus breed. Mr Power said with a gestation length of -8.8, birth weight of +4.3, 600-day growth of +134 and intramuscular fat of 4.1 per cent, Te Mania Model was impressive.

"He will be ideal for fast-tracking genetic gain

through artificial insemination over our Angus heifers," he said.

"We have been buying Angus bulls exclusively from Te Mania for the past 15 years and we are extremely happy with the feedback we are receiving from feedlots.

"We like to buy bulls in their working clothes, not fed up for sale, and that's what we get at Te Mania Angus."

Te Mania Angus director Hamish McFarlane said the team was enormously encouraged by the support in the face of the NSW drought.

"We're all in hope there is some rain in the very near future," he said.

"Among strong support from repeat clients, it was heartening to see 28 bulls purchased by new clients.

"Breeders from as far north as Blackall, Roma and Dingo, Queensland, and south to Tasmania's King Is-

land, and Cobden, Victoria, were among buyers."

Michael and Annie O'Brien, The Brigalows, Carinda, purchased six bulls for an average of \$8000 to be split between The Brigalows and new property, Stratton at Roma.

"We have reduced numbers at Carinda to 150 cows and moved 800 cows to Roma," Mr O'Brien said.

"We have been feeding and/or agisting sheep and cattle for six years, except for a break in 2016.

"Rainfall averaged 125 to 150 millimetres except 2016, when 425mm fell in two months."

Tim Scott, Table Top Angus, Albury, purchased two sires at \$17,000 each.

They were Te Mania Moonya M1379 by Te Mania Berkley B1 and Te Mania Makeham M148 by Te Mania Jerilderie. Both bulls

had very high \$Indexes and estimated breeding values across the board.

Tenterfield-based blue-ribbon and long-time supplier to the Rangers Valley feedlot at Glen Innes, Arthur Cox, Speriby North Angus also paid \$17,000 for Te Mania Moulder M1517 by Te Mania Jenkins J89.

TRT Pastoral was the major volume buyer, putting together a draft of 15 bulls for its aggregation on King Island, Bass Strait, at an average of \$5600.

Tom Newsome, Glen Innes, also a supplier to Rangers Valley, bought eight bulls to average \$7375.

"I'm wanting to boost the feedlot performance of our cattle," Mr Newsome said.

"It takes four years from conception to get feedback results, so we've chosen to fast-track our genetic gain.

"We have been sour-

ing Team Te Mania blood females and have selected bulls today on high heavy grain \$Index, 600-day weight and marbling while still making sure all the other EBVs ticked the right boxes."

Repeat client Prue Coulton, North Star, took six bulls to \$13,000 and average \$9000, while Ben and Belinda Warby purchased three bulls for an average of \$7600.

Erin Arbuckle, Aurifier Partnership, Bungunya, Qld, purchased five bulls through McKenna Gibson, TopX, Goondiwindi, focusing on carcass merit, structure and low to moderate birth weight for the Rangers Valley, Wyalala and Stanbroke feedlots.

Russell Pastoral Company, Blackall, Qld, purchased six bulls for an average of \$4000.

The sale was conducted by Clemson Hiscox, Walgett, with Paul Dooley, Tamworth, guest auctioneer.



Deep Valley Crystal will be sold for charity.

Charity heifer to be sold at bull sale

DROUGHTMASTER breeders from across the country can bid on a stud female at the breed's national bull sale in September to raise funds for the Black Dog Ride charity.

Graham Bishop, Deep Valley Droughtmasters, Donnybrook, Western Australia, will offer 18-month-old heifer, Deep Valley Crystal, during the Drinks with Droughties pre-sale event on September 10 at Gracemere.

The heifer was broken-in by WA's Peter and Judy Milton who had previously donated steers to charity.

They made the switch to heifers after receiving negative feedback surrounding the steers' slaughtering.

"The fact that the steer was always slaughtered upset some of the townsfolk, so we decided to work with heifers so they can be sold to go back to a paddock and live out an idyllic life as a productive cow," Mr Milton said.

"In the past we have taken steers to schools and colleges, shopping centres, mine sites - anywhere you normally don't find cattle."

The sale will be streamed via Elite Livestock Auctions.