

## Cross Highland Update

There was a strong demand for well bred cross Highland heifer Calves at the recent breeding sale held at the Oban Livestock Centre held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October.

The section for cross Highland heifers was topped by the usual strong consignment from Castles Estate near Dalmally, where the manager Dan McLaughlin had them presented and drawn to advantage.

The best pair of eight-month old calves weighed 283kg and sold for £650. This was followed by two well-matched red calves weighing in at 280kg and selling for £600.

The annual consignment from Achnacloich met a strong demand, selling to a top of £620 for seven-month old roan coloured calves weighing 234kg. This was followed by a wonderful pair of light roans weighing 207kg selling £520, and at the same price a nice pair of six -month olds weighing 180kg.

All the Achnacloich consignment apart from the last pen were bought for herd replacements by Fulton Ronald, Salmore Farm just outside Oban who crosses them with the Simmental bull. Fulton's own consignment of cross heifer calves were in demand selling to a top of £780 at 277kg followed £740 at 285kg, showing the real worth of the cross Highland cow.

Most of the better quality cross Highland heifers were bought by farmers in and around the west coast who still believe the traditional Cross Highland heifer the most economical and long-lived suckler cow for out wintering in the West Highlands; many more could have been sold to advantage.

Angus Mackay  
01\11\2018



*Calves from Achnacloch*