

welters® Heritage White Galloways



White Galloway Heritage Herd



The Galloway Breed

Black Galloways are the most commonly farmed of the species, followed by the Belted variety with its distinctive white stripe.

The White Galloways are less common compared to the black and the belted types, which has resulted in a reduced number of quality bloodlines in this category generally. The whites are however slowly gaining in popularity and this is being encouraged by the dedicated efforts

of breeders such as **welters®**, whose farms are based near the Scottish Borders.

Over the past several years, the White Heritage Galloway has been established as a herd through **welters®** Galloway cattle breeding programme. This has been developed as part of their commitment to protecting native species and resources in the UK and the White Galloway has an ancestry that stretches back to the white wild cattle of

ancient Britain.

In general, the Galloway as a breed is naturally hornless, and instead of horns has a boney knob

at the top of its skull called a poll. They have a shaggy coat creating a double layer of coarse outer guard hairs and a thick, woolly undercoat for warmth, making them well adapted to the Border climate.

White Galloway's are typically mostly white, with black points restricted to ears, feet, and muzzle and it is these traits that contribute to a fine breeding line.

The success of **welters®** breeding programme has resulted in some fine specimens and interest in them as breeding stock is gaining



Prize Bull - Heritage Desider

momentum. Most recently one of **welters**[®] own bred bulls, 'Heritage Desider' won first prize for **Male White Champion** at the Belted and White Galloways Show and Sale held at Castle Douglas in October 2017. This was followed by **Reserve Overall Winner** as recognition of the breed quality of the



skilled animal husbandry practised at the **welters**[®] farm.

Heritage Desider will be used to sire more offspring within the herd, which will help maintain

the quality of the bloodline throughout the breeding stock and also further afield, as the sperm of an award winning bull can not only be sold to breeders from the UK but potentially across the world.

Indeed the bloodline base of the current **welters**[®] herd is produced in part from a very famous herd called the Kilinstown Galloways and their genetic heritage has been bred into the whites to enhance the overall value and quality of the stock going forward.

Shortly after the victory at Castle Douglas, Heritage Desider was selected to represent England for an



international competition organised by global breeding organisation GallowayBreeder.net and narrowly lost out to Australia.

The herd is currently wintering at the main farm site where they are

being monitored and cared for by dedicated staff to ensure continued maintenance of a healthy herd. Come the spring, the cattle will be moved to a neighbouring secondary farmland site where they can range freely in open rolling fields and graze on the grass, heathers and thistles common to the Borders of England and Scotland.

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