

Case Study

Farmer:	John Mercer
Farm:	Kandanga Valley Charolais and Charbray Stud
Location:	QLD
Operation:	Charolais and Charbray bulls



Getting top dollar starts during dehorning.

For John, it's Tri-Solfen 'all the way' to manage pain relief and stem blood flow on his dehorned calves to reduce post-dehorning setback.

John and Roslyn Mercer are Queensland based cattle farmers who run around 1,300 registered stud Charolais and Charbray cattle across two properties – one in Kandanga Valley, 30 minutes south west of Gympie, and one at Moonie on the western downs.

Continuing five decades of cattle farming.

The first Charolais cattle were purchased by John's parents in 1973 and soon infused into the Kandanga Valley herd. John and Roslyn registered the stud in 1988 and purchased stud females from high profile stud and herd dispersals. Since then, John & Roz have bred heavy muscled, soft fleshed, French type cattle with an eye for traits that perform in Queensland conditions.

"For the Charolais, traits like fertility, milk, growth and muscling are the top priority".

Just six years after the first Charolais infusion in the herd, the first registered Charbrays were purchased at the Nahrunda Stud dispersal at Gympie in 1979. "They demonstrated tremendous growth, muscling plus tick resistance and we were convinced Charbray were a smart choice for Queensland conditions. And they proved us right, with their saleability at fat and store markets now being second to none in Queensland."

Today the Mercers' put a heavy emphasis on breeding pure, generation bred Charbrays for a much better consistency of progeny to hit the ground.

A renewed focus for the Mercers'.

Things have certainly changed since John and Roz took over the family farm in 1986.

From a humble beginning with just a handful of stud cows, John and Roz built up their herds to a peak of around 1700 head of stud cattle but have since reduced to over 1300 head.

"We have put a big emphasis on fertility and survivability over the last few years as we have wound our herd back to a more manageable level."

Dechra







"They talked about how good the product was and how it stopped the pain and stemmed the blood flow. Now, we use Tri-Solfen on all our dehorned calves – around 300 of them."

"Having access to such a large number of stud females, especially over the last fifteen years, has allowed us to be very selective within our herd and we think the bulls offered during this time reflect this, as do their very positive EBV figures."

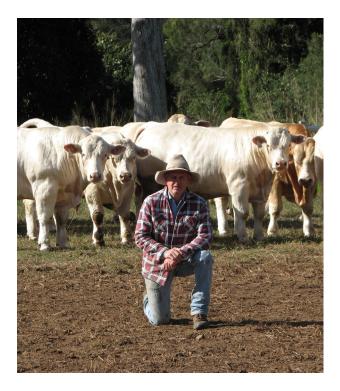
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Keeping cattle looking their best.

Running two on property bull sales each year, and selling to local markets in between, keeping the herd healthy, happy and attractive was the top motivator for John.

"We've found that Tri-Solfen really helped to reduce the pain and greatly assists control of bleeding. It's so easy to apply. After the dehorning process, the cattle clean up very well. The calves appear much more settled and relaxed over the next 24 hours, which ensures they continue to perform without a setback."



Want to provide pain relief, reduced bleeding, infection control and wound care for your cattle?

Find out how at www.trisolfen.com.au

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