



LE GAEC CAMUS HUBERSON ROCH

MIXED TYPE AND WELL BALANCED ANIMALS

The GAEC (farming group) Camus-Huberson-Roch is located in Arnac La Poste (87160) in the north of Haute-Vienne. It is now composed of 3 members: Christophe Huberson, his mother Nadine, and Olivier Roch which is part of the group since 2007. The herd is characterized by amazing mixed animal that are very consistent, easy to rear and with good carcass quality.



Genetic choices are directed toward very easy to rear animals but also considering the international market demand.

➤ How would you describe your herd management

To make the job easier we deliberately have a simple management system. Cattle spend the winter in stalls where it is fed with grass silage, grain and ad-libitum hay. We also want to take advantage of pastures as much as possible. Silage maize is only used for fattening animals.

Our main commercial objective is to market animals for reproduction.

We sell an average of 15 males/years on farm or during auctions. Concerning females, we mostly sell our heifers in France and abroad. The animals that doesn't fit our selection criterias are fattened. Females are slaughtered between 12 to 24 months (depending on the market) and young bulls are slaughtered from 400 to 450 kg. Then we produce 40 cull cows/year with an average carcass weight of 500 kg.

KEY FIGURES...

- **200 calvings/yr**
- **260 ha of agricultural land of which 55ha is devoted for cereals, 25 ha for maize silage and 180ha for grassland (of which 20ha is natural)**
- **Renewal rate: 25%**
- **Calving seasons: summer/autumn (15th august - 15october) & spring (1st march 30th april)**

➤ What breeding goals are your aiming for your cattle?

We are mostly working with mixed type animals. We also want to be flexible so that we are always relevant according to the market needs. The good genetic diversity enables us to do so... We used to have a very high demand for mixed breeding type animals but now there is a growing request for mixed beefy type ones, so we adapt our offer. More specifically we are targeting well balanced animals that are consistent and easy to rear. We want good pelvises, proper claws and udders. Fertility is also of great importance as we are aiming 1 calf/cow/year. Temperament is also an essential criteria. We are systematically culling non docile cattle.

Ultimatly we truly emphasize on hornless animals.



« Geant » a polled bull with other show animals (april 2015)

When the GIE (economic interest group) polled was created years ago, my father was one of the first to invest in the project and bought canadian embryos. Having polled animals is a gain of time but also a plus for our labour organization.

➤ How would you describe your partnership with KBS-Genetic?

We always took part in the events that were runned by KBS. Auction sales were good oportunities to sell some of our best bulls such as Nénuphar, Poète or Régal (sold in Irlande). We were also present this year at SIMAGENA in Paris and very pleased by the organization and the atmosphere. We showed 2 heifers (Honda & Hautesse) which respectively won 2nd and 3rd prices.

An impressive genetic background



45 years of cattle selection

6 championship prizes in Paris show



Outstanding bulls

Hercule, Dimitri, Nénuphar,
Salon, Géant...
But also winning heifers and cows

Investment in
The polled genetics are now paid off and we
Need to keep hold of our lead!

➤ What are your prospects for the farm?

Now we want to prepare my mother retirement. The idea is then to keep the same herd size without any extra workforce (excepting during labour peaks). That's why we want to keep on selecting very steady and easy to rear animals. Obviously we will keep on focusing on the polled genetic.

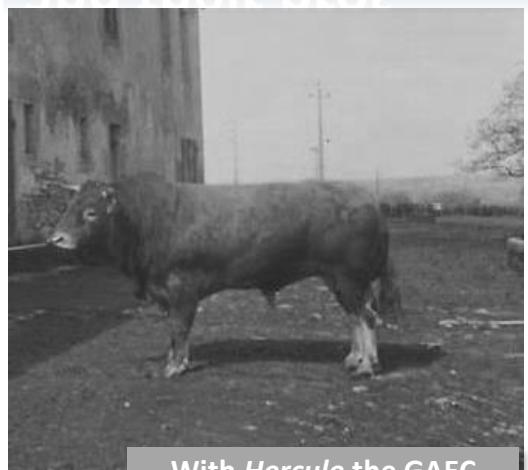


The genetic aspect: conformation, power and thinness

Review of the bulls used and their pros

>> The GAEC Camus-Huberson-Roch has started genetic selection in the 70's with a bull named « **Hercule** » (From Rivet breeding). He sired females with great volumes and very wide pelvis.

It went on with « **Lupin** » (from Pimpin Frères breeding) who brought much height in the herd. The crossing between Hercule and Lupin was very efficient for producing voluminous and powerful females.



With *Hercule* the GAEC started with solid grounds

Then « **Soleil** » (from Jamilloux breeding) was used. He produced some of the biggest cows of the farm such as Valse or Violette (winners of many prizes in national contests) but also Valmy, a famous bull which won 1st prize in Paris Show. In 1986, « **Sirocco** » was bought to Jacques Marcailloux during Paris Show. He kept on adding power but also weight to the herd (average carcase weight was more than 500kg at this time). Moreover this bull produced very consistent top quality calves.

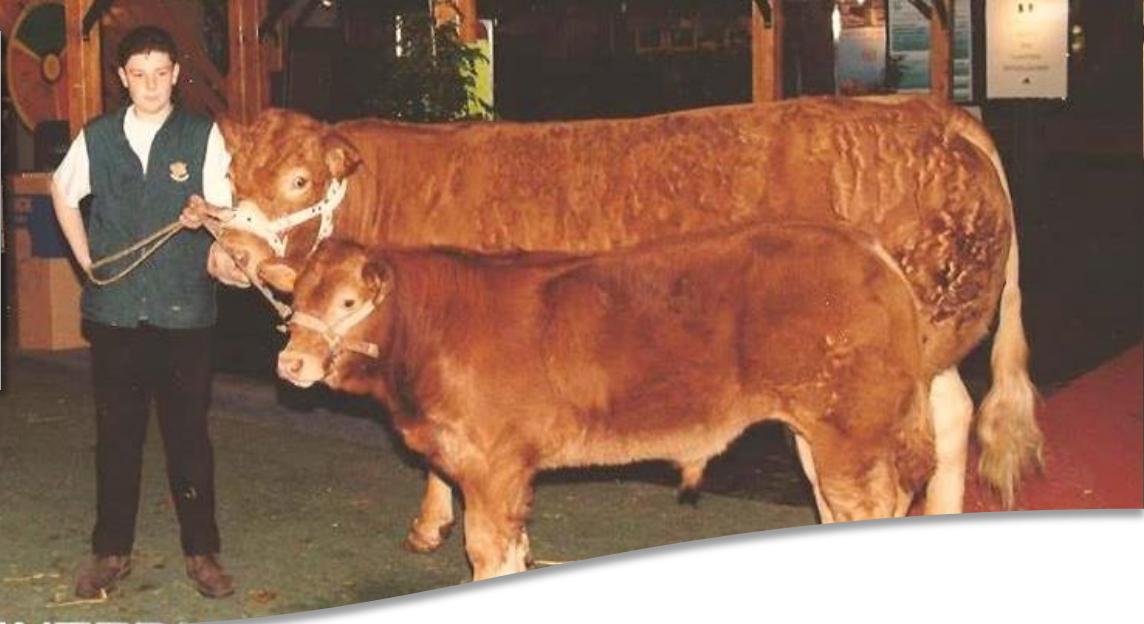


Dimitri, emblematic bull of the breeding, posing in front of the Louvre Pyramid (Paris)

Afterwards the farm used Dimitri (from Decoster breeding) who shown an impressive track-record! (champion in Paris in 1992, 1993 and 1995). He produced great mixt-breed type bulls with excellent pelvises and development. Dimitri made also good advertising for the farm on a national and european scale.

After that, Hooker (from GAEC Trentalaud) took over on shows. He was champion in Brives (1996) and in Paris (1998) contests. He produced more mixt type offspring with very thin bones and good milking aptitudes.

Christophe,
passionate of
cattle since his
childhood...
Holding here
« Girofée » and
its calf
« Nénuphar » in
Paris (1998)



Léo (from GAEC Lagautriere élevage 23) was a winning qualified bull in Limoges but also in Paris show (1998). It was very good at producing powerful animals with wide pelvis. Its son « **Nénuphar** » was also one of the best male on the farm and produced many offspring for European markets. It enabled to keep the power of its sire but also to add conformation to the herd. Nenuphar was sold in Irlande to Bobby Jones as part of a Prestige sale (organized by KBS).

Then **Salon** was bought during SIMAGENA show (Paris Villepinte) from EARL Couvrier. He was well known for his mixt-type production. Additionally, females had good milk production and were very hardy. Currently many daughters of Salon are showing their ability to produce fine reproductors.



Louis de Neuville, Michel Camus and « **Nana** »
in Paris (1981)

Now, the GAEC Camus-Huberson-Roch is using 3 bulls which are ensuring the continuity of the herd.

« **Géant** » is a son of Bonus (Ryde Uranos) and a Malibu dam. He is an exceptional polled mixt-beefy type bull which was born in the farm. Winner of the National Limousin contest in Nancy (2013) in the beef section, he was also the first polled bull to take part in the national show in Paris in 2014. He is siring mixt/mixt-beefy type bulls with good width and growth rates.

Gabi, born in GAEC Bourbouloux is a son of Damien (Baccara) and Cora (Verdy), he is producing mixt-type animals with very nice pelvises and good breed quality.