



# Conestoga Simmentalers

Graeme and Margi Currin +27 82 893 8147

## Conestoga Simmentalers Established 2013



The **Conestoga wagon** is a heavy, [covered wagon](#) that was used extensively during the late 18th century and the early 19th century in the [United States](#) and [Canada](#). It was large enough to transport loads up to 8 [tons](#) (7 [metric tons](#)), and was drawn by horses, mules or oxen. It was designed to help keep its contents from moving about when in motion and to aid it in crossing rivers and streams, though it sometimes leaked unless caulked. The first known

mention of a "Conestoga wagon" was by [James Logan](#) on December 31, 1717 in his accounting log after purchasing it from James Hendricks.<sup>[2]</sup> It was named after the "Conestoga River" "Courtesy of Wikipedia"

We chose this unusual name because we have a long affection for wagons dating back to the early settlers that traversed Southern Africa with the old Ossewaens. My Ouma travelled up to Zimbabwe on donkey drawn wagons during the Rindepest

years and there are photos of them crossing Beit Bridge. Our own marriage wagon was an old wagon that belonged to Willie Adam, Margi's Great Uncle. It was drawn by six oxen that were still in service in the Pakkies location bordering the old Transkei.

Our Good friend Kippie Bryden was late for the reception and happened by us en route and immediately thought that there must be a native funeral on at the same time as our wedding.



Our Family history with the Simmentaler goes way back to the old Arabella and Regent Studs that were based in Mooi River and belonged to Johan De Kok. From there it has been a long and fascinating journey with studs in the Natal Midlands, East Griqualand and up to the plains and Vaal Dam of the Free State. Here shown in the picture was my first big champion Intsizwa Billy owned by Jack Bastard.



# Conestoga Simmentalers

Graeme and Margi Currin +27 82 893 8147

## Our Love Story with the Simmentaler Breed

Dad, Ian Currin Snr has been farming with Simmentalers for close on forty years using imported South African Simmentaler and Brahman bulls for Press Farming Ltd, Shire River in Malawi. These turned out an amazing success and are my earliest memories of these great cattle.

Then the move to South Africa and Regent Simmentaler and Arabella Simmentaler studs, Mooi River, where they still farm with the Sanjika Simmentaler stud today. The Regent bulls I can remember were Rumevite Pranks Timothy, Arabella Kaparo, Hagen and Kurier (both Imported German AI bulls), show cows Regents Salacia and Natalia.

The Regent bloodlines still run through my cattle today with one super blood line Regent Hagens General. This bull was a phenomenal breeder and character. I remember pulling him out of an old slurry pit that he had fallen into one day. We simply put a rope over his head and yanked him out. In his old age he would look at you and snort, if sensing fear would then chase you. My Amanda bloodline is from the old General and Hagen lines. I wish I had more photos of this stud and cattle.



CONESTOGA COWS

## Sanjika Simmentaler Stud

My Dads Stud! This small stud has achieved more than all of us could ever imagine. It showed me how the Simmentaler could also be used as a tough, ranching type of animal using little lick and surviving in the sourveld of the Natal Midlands. These early maturing Simmentalers have since garnered a reputation for producing tough commercial bulls that have kept many a commercial breeder happy for years. A few stud bulls have also been bred from here and have served with distinction. Dads first herd sire was Regent Hagens General who produced outstanding bulls and females. Other great bulls used here, to mention only a few, were Syrilla Horatio, Sanjika Fuhrer, who won the Royal show Gold cup, Sanjika Gandalf, Intsizwa Billy, Bulk en Brul Marloe, Sanjika Rader who was Res breed Champ at Pretoria, Sanjika Panser, Sanjika Shark, Sanjika Wenner etc. I have been fortunate to work closely with a lot of these bloodlines and some of them carry on in my Hand, Tamarin and Amanda bloodlines







# Conestoga Simmentalers

Graeme and Margi Currin +27 82 893 8147

## SANJIKA SIMMENTALERS



Sanjika Wenner Royal Show Champion

Wayne  
Southwood



Sanjika Furher Royal Show and Gold Cup Champion





# Conestoga Simmentalers

Graeme and Margi Currin +27 82 893 8147

## SANJIKA SIMMENTALERS



Sanjika Kaiser



Sanjika Sabre



Sanjika Raider



Sanjika Wenner



### Sanjika Simmentaler Stud

An Incredible Journey

A pleasure always to see the new calves develop into the beautiful animals that make up the main stream herd!



# Conestoga Simmentalers

Graeme and Margi Currin +27 82 893 8147

## SYRILLA SIMMENTALERS

ROLAND BOUWER FARMING

I worked for Roland Bouwer's Syrilla Simmentaler Studs in Mooi River for four great years. We grew rye grass and irrigated maize as well as commercial cattle and stud Simmentalers. Roland had built up a fine herd and had some super interesting genetics.

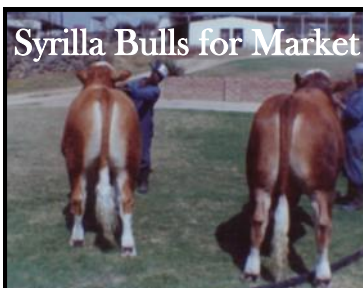
My first two herd sires were Vlekke Peet, a Vlekke President son, Syrilla Hughie, a Fredzel Daan son and Syrilla Forzando. Forzando was one of the best bulls I can remember and bred out of Arabella Sumoa, Syrilla's best breeding cow and the German Super bull Hafke. We also AI'd with a lot of the Taurus Bulls Ingo, Ibbie and Ru Dev Jim. Some of our best young cows at that stage were from Dorsim Marius and Swaarbou Bob. It was the cow herd that made this stud, with several imported German cows, Lamella, Laila, Lynette, Fortune, Favour, Fantasy and Bianca. These were some of the most beautiful cows imaginable and I still dream of them. We also had some beautiful Vlekke and Swaarbou cows along with a whole lot of self made Simmentalers.

I have a few bloodlines left, mainly out of two young Syrilla cows. Syrilla Leoreal from Hughie who bred many daughters and also bred Sanjika Shark that Dad showed and bred with distinction and Syrilla Locket from Forzando who bred Sanjika Rader a Pretoria Res Breed Champ for Sanjika Simmentalers



Syrilla Hughie

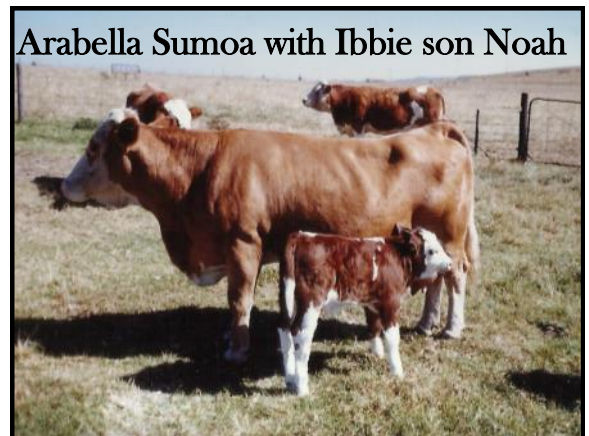
Syrilla Hughie bred our Leoreal line that produced many fine animals and Hughie then is the Grand Sire of Sanjika Shark and Sanjika Wenner



Syrilla Bulls for Market



Syrilla Lad



Arabella Sumoa with Ibbie son Noah





# Conestoga Simmentalers

Graeme and Margi Currin +27 82 893 8147

## INTSIZWA SIMMENTALERS

### J'S HARLEQUIN SIMMENTALERS

This was the Stud of the late Jack Bastard and here I had some of the happiest times breeding Merino sheep and top quality Simmentalers. As the late Mazda Louwrens used to say the only taal is the Simmentaal! Great Intsizwa cattle bred over many years and I was fortunate enough to spend six good years with these cattle.

Bulls such as Intsizwa Billy! Billy was a son of Intsizwa Baltic who was bred from Intsizwa Bendelf a Chargo Potfontein son from the German Super bull Bernheim. Baltic was also a Royal Show Gold Cup winner and went on to breed many top females in all the top studs, Billy won my first Royal Show Gold Cup and his progeny group classes also won the interbreed classes at the Royal and also won my only National Championship first place for a group of two sons and two daughters with Intsizwa Ben, Elect, Hostess and Balan.

The bloodlines of Hostess and her full sister Hand still run strongly in our herd with Sanjika Hostess, two Sanjika Hand half sisters and their daughters. Sanjika Hand INAo318 is the dam of our Junior Herd sire Sanjika Honeysmack and is at present our top producing cow.





# Conestoga Simmentalers

Graeme and Margi Currin +27 82 893 8147

## INTSIZWA SIMMENTALERS

J'S HARLEQUIN SIMMENTALERS



Intsizwa Billy was the fourth generation from the imported german bull Berheim. Bernheim bred Chargo Potfontein who bred Intsizwa Baltic who then sired Billy. If you pull Baltic and Billy's calf records you will see how many sons and daughters they both bred, that in their turn bred many fine animals in all the studs where they were used.



INTSIZWA BALTIC



INTSIZWA MIAS



INTSIZWA ELECT



BILLY DAUGHTERS





# Conestoga Simmentalers

Graeme and Margi Currin +27 82 893 8147

## CONESTOGA SIMMENTALERS

*Two Bulls that have had a Major Impact wherever they have bred!!*

### **Bulk en Brul Marloe JFB9414**

This phenomenal Bull bred outstanding bulls and females first for me at Intsizwa, then at Sanjika and spent his last years breeding Simbras at Excelsus Simbra's. Our goal was always to crossbreed Intsizwa Billy and Marloe offspring and my top cow Hand INA0318 and her sister Hand INA 04420 are just two such crosses.

### **Taaiboschspruit Proman.**

Proman has sired around forty calves for Sanjika, breeding both top bulls and fine early maturing females. Our Panda line continues with this great bull.



**Great Sires make for great calves make for great replacement Stock!**

**Marloe and Proman: Two of a kind!**





# Conestoga Simmentalers

Graeme and Margi Currin +27 82 893 8147

## CONESTOGA SIMMENTALERS

Conestoga Simmentalers started with the tremendous incentive of being allowed to build up a herd of cattle at the Excelsus Farming group in the Free State. Here we breed Simbra, Beef Master and Bonsmara stud Cattle. The opportunity to breed our own cattle for the first time has left us running around like little kids with brand new toys.

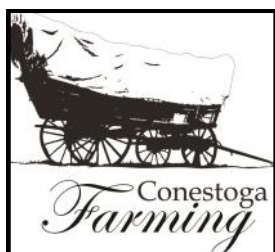
Our objectives and goals were clear from the start and that was to build a herd of stud cattle from scratch with the limited resources that we had and these cattle had to pay their way as soon as possible.

We bought cattle as we could from Asmer Simentaler stud, our Hera bloodlines, Sanjika Simmentalers, Hostess, Hand, Panda, Tamarin, Amanda and Riekie lines, Rivervally Simmentalers, May and Ivy bloodlines.

We then had the good fortune of buying all the Excelsus Simmentaler cows and with these some great cattle from the Taaiboschspruit Studs, Anroda Studs, Jahdal Studs and the Simso Simmentaler Studs.



**Our First Herd Sire Kyksim Honeymoon**



# Conestoga Simmentalers

Graeme and Margi Currin +27 82 893 8147



Conestoga Calves have only arrived in 2013 but we bred under the Sanjika name until our stud name was registered. Honeysmack is a son of Honeymoon bred from Sanjika Hand, a Intsizwa Billy/Bulk en Brul Marloe daughter.

We also used the polled Diana's Zander, Odensim Ben and Paul, Mont-Beau Espresso and UG105 Salerika De La Rey



The Conestoga Brand has been established in 2013 with the registration of Conestoga Simmentalers with the Simmentaler Society of South Africa with the prefix of GC

Our Brand has also been registered this year 2013 with the inverted G on top of the C on top of a smiley face!

All our work and efforts are dedicated to our Father and God in Heaven!

**Conestoga A Small Beginning!!**