

## LIVESTOCK

# Minnamurra sells to \$24,000

BY ELKA DEVNEY

GESTATION length and low birthweight were the sought after traits at the ninth Minnamurra Speckle Park bull sale, held on-property at Mount Mill, near Coolah.

Amy and Justin Dickens, JAD Speckle Park, Yeoval, purchased the top-priced bull, Minnamurra Tulsa T70, for \$24,000.

The 25-month old son of JAD Nosey Jack N13 out of Minnamurra 60A Fair Maiden P242, weighed 708 kilograms and scanned 113 square centimetres eye muscle area, 10 millimetres P8 fat, 7mm rib fat and 6.3 per cent intramuscular fat.

He also placed in the top 10 per cent of the breed with an estimated breeding value (EBV) of -1.5 for gestation length and top 50pc with +1.2 birthweight.

Return buyer Justin Dickens said he thought Tulsa T70 was the most complete bull in the catalogue.

"Structurally he is impeccable, super docile, the heaviest bull here, but he also has a short gestation length, low birthweight and is very posi-



Amy and Justin Dickens with Stew McKenzie, JAD Speckle Park, Yeoval, Brian Kennedy, Elders, Armidale, David Reid and Dennis Power, Minnamurra Speckle Park, and auctioneer Paul Dooley, with the top lot, Minnamurra Tulsa T70.

tive on the IMF," he said.

The couple sought a bull suitable to use over their heifers this year.

"We have a lot of white in our herd now, so we needed to put some more colour

back in there. He'll go home and we'll fresh semen AI a big portion of our heifers and cows with him, and then he'll go out and back up the AI to be used extensively as a complete outcross to anything

we've got," Mr Dickens said.

"We'll join about 200-odd heifers this year and all up about 500 females, so he'll put his footprint on them."

In a full circle moment, the Minnamurra stud purchased

his sire at the Dickens' inaugural sale in 2019.

"We've never actually bought a Nosey Jack son and at that time we didn't use the bull himself so it is good to see how he has gone on and

bred here," Mr Dickens said.

"Minnamurra do recording arguably more than anyone else in the breed in terms of measurement, and research and development into meat quality and performance.

"We're all about measurement and it is about the meat that's under the skin at the end of the day."

Amy Dickens echoed Justin's sentiment and said Minnamurra were a commercial inspiration to them.

Despite a lower than hoped clearance, Minnamurra general manager Dennis Power said the stud would keep at it.

"We'll retain the remaining bulls. We're not giving up, we'll just make them better," he said.

Kayone Speckle Park, Piambong, purchased Minnamurra Teddy T15, for \$6000. Ron Potter Farms, Ballyrogan, Hillston, purchased Minnamurra Trojan T79, for \$12,000. All up, three of 34 bulls averaged \$14,000.

The sale was conducted by Elders with Paul Dooley as auctioneer. AuctionsPlus provided the interface.