



Travel & Training Bursary Report

FFN member: Zach Jobson, NSW

Event: 2015 Angus Youth National Roundup, Wodonga VIC – 15-18 January 2015

The Angus Youth National Roundup is one of the premier events for young beef cattle enthusiasts in Australia. The Roundup program includes a series of competitions, educational sessions and fun activities over 4 days in January each year. The event is open to experienced and novice competitors alike, aged between 8 and 25 years. The Roundup is unique in that they provide animals to those participants that cannot bring their own.

Recently, I attended the Angus Youth National Roundup at the Wodonga Exhibition Centre, in the Riverina with the some of the younger generation of the beef industry, with over 150 competitors from all over Australia attending as well as across the Tasman.

The 2015 Angus Youth National Roundup was labelled by competitors, parents and friends alike as an exceptional event, made possible through the support of Angus Australia and many generous sponsors such as the Future Farmers Network.

The Roundup included three and a half days of educational sessions, competitions and fun activities. The educational sessions were delivered by beef industry experts and included sessions such as commercial cattle assessment, understanding breed plans and EBV's, meat quality and a veterinary session. The competitions at the event included the paraders classes, cattle classes and also a junior judging and herdsman competition. There was also a special dinner and auction on the Saturday night, where all competitors of the roundup with families and friends as well as sponsors were invited to attend. The dinner and auction was located at the Commercial Club in Albury. It was a fun night for all, with over \$21,000 raised from the event which was returned to the Angus Youth Roundup funds. The funds raised are to be used for future events to make them even better over the years to come.

The Roundup went so quick and before I knew it Sunday had come and I would be heading back home. I was very pleased with my efforts as this was my first time at a cattle show as a competitor and despite how nervous I was I received an award for my achievements for the event. I received the intermediate encouragement award as the judges and committee noticed my keen enthusiasm to learn.

From what I learnt, cattle youth camps play a very important role in developing young people. Not only do they build confidence with animals and an understanding and interest in agriculture as a career, they also provide excellent opportunities for personal development and increasing self-confidence through paraders competitions, junior judging competitions and public speaking as well as the opportunity to make lifelong friends of all ages. The Roundup was truly a great experience and I encourage everyone to take up this opportunity to attend if you have a desire to be a part of the diverse agricultural industry.



A special thank you goes to the Future Farmers Network for providing me with a travel and training bursary to attend this event and I will be definitely be back next year. I would also like to say a big thank you to the Hurst family of Tickalara Angus & Maine Anjou – Gunning, NSW, for providing me with a ballot animal for the event, as I was unable to take one of my own. I would also like to extend my thanks to all those involved, especially the sponsors and the Angus Youth Management Committee, for a successful event and Angus Australia for supporting them.



1. An Angus Youth competitor tribute to Phillip Hughes who was a passionate supporter of the Angus breed. Phillip's Angus Stud Four O Eight Angus was a sponsor of the 2015 Angus Youth National Roundup.



2. Tickalara Angus' exhibit after the Paraders Competition. Part of our daily job was to check them regularly, as well as keep their living quarters clean by mucking the stalls out. (My Bull, 2nd from the right)



3. Tickalara Knox (K5) - 10 ½ months old – My ballot animal for the weekend, winning 3rd place in the Paraders Competition. This felt great as I had never led cattle before and I was pleased that he got a place after all the washing, blow-drying and clipping that I did to get him ready for his class in order for him to look the best of his ability.

Zach Jobson