

The Official Publication of the International Miniature Zebu Association



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Founded in 1991, the IMZA is the oldest registry of miniature zebu in the world. Our purpose is to collect, record, and preserve the pedigrees of all Miniature Zebu cattle. Additionally, we support our members through education and promotion of the breed, maintenance of a breed registry, and the regulation of all matters that pertain to the history, breeding, exhibition, or improvement of the Miniature Zebu breed.

International Miniature Zebu Association

17500 Hamilton Arms Court, Dewitt, VA 23840

407-717-0084 – email: imzainfo@gmail.com – website www.imza.name



Cover Photo: Bogle Farms Ginger Snap, owned by EC Ahern and Renee Sherbert of Sniper Creek Farm in Hickory Grove, SC, is one week old in this picture. Ginger Snap came to her new home at just two days of age after riding in a cage in an SUV from Florida. See more pictures of Ginger Snap on page 4 of this issue.

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President's Message

Hello everyone,

As 2015 draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to look back over this year's success story for IMZA and to thank the two people who have made that success possible. One of the most visible faces of IMZA is our website, www.imza.name. Our webmaster, Barbara McDermott, has done an excellent job of keeping the site interesting, entertaining and current. She has also taken on the job as editor for our quarterly newsletter, The IMZA CON*NECTION. She is truly an asset to the association. Please remember to send her pictures, mini zebu articles and current news events so that she has the valuable materials that she needs to continue to spotlight our miniature cattle and to educate the general public about them. Thank you, Barbara, for a job very well done! You are greatly appreciated.

Another face of IMZA is the registry. Our new Registrar, Kathy Petersen, has proven her value to the association very quickly. Not only does she keep our Facebook page, The International Miniature Zebu Association (IMZA), alive with interesting material and pictures, but she has turned the registry and registration process into an efficient, smooth-running machine. I am certain that all of you have become aware of the quality and speed of her work, whether it be a Record of Birth, Hardship Registration, Transfer or Permanent registration. Her paperwork turn-around time is amazing, and her courtesy and helpfulness to the membership are simply the best. Thank you, Kathy, for an amazing job! You are a very valuable asset to IMZA.

It will soon be time for the annual Board of Directors election. Please consider going to the IMZA website and filling out an application as a candidate for a position on the board. New board members, new ideas and new suggestions are always welcome.

I send my best wishes to each and every one of you for a wonderful Holiday Season! Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, Prosperous New year!

Judy Rohner,
President, International Miniature Zebu Association

Welcome to our New Members who joined IMZA from August-November 2015

- Kim Broome, Chucky, TN
- Donna Counts, Seagoville, TX
- Debra Heaton, Tomball, TX
- Jamie Hester, Romance, AR
- Thomas L. Reeves, Cottageville, SC
- Renee Sherbert, Mauldin, SC
- Mindy Stewart, Delaware, OK
- Karen and Roger Theriot, Bell City, LA
- Benny Thomas, Winslow, IN
- Donald Turpin, Pineville, LA
- Boby or Barbara Vice, Lawn, TX
- Nick Wagner, Babson Park, FL

Please note that the IMZA CoN*Nection is published on-line only in pdf format. You may see some of the same news and information on our website which may seem redundant; but websites are ever-changing. By having our newsletter in printed form, we will always have a record of what's been taking place in the history of the IMZA. Currently, we have a few back issues available for download or viewing on the IMZA website. If there are some IMZA members who do not get on the internet, please contact Barbara McDermott to make arrangements to receive a hard copy via U.S. Mail. You may contact Barbara via email at webmaster@imza.name or by telephone at 407-568-7337.

Here are a few more pictures from new members, Renee Sherbert and EC Ahern, of Sniper Creek Farm in Hickory Grove, SC, of our cover model, Bogle Farms Ginger Snap. Looks like she's having a lot of fun!



There's more than one way to get your new zebu home! Here is Ginger Snap on the way home, in a cage in the back of Rick Bogle's SUV. They met at Krispy Kreme in Greenville, SC., for the exchange.



IMZA on Facebook



Have you checked out the IMZA on Facebook lately? Here are some of the topics being discussed :

- Zebu can reach the speed of 25 miles per hour when it is faced with danger.
- Fun Fact: Just like in camels, the hump serves as a reservoir of fat that can be used as a source of energy when regular food is not available.
- Did you know that you can register your Zebu, do report of births, and transfers right online? It comes to the registrar within moments . . . <http://www.imza.name/application.html> .
- Do you want to see more websites about Zebu? Visit some of our members' websites . . . <http://www.imza.name/links.html> .
- Have you checked your Report of Births? Make sure they have not expired. If they have, we need you to complete the form for permanent registrations, measure your Zebu and take a photo--and it only costs \$10.00. You can do it right online on the IMZA website, or you can mail it in. We cannot register calves unless the parents are up to date.
- What type of identification do you like to use in your herd? Do you microchip, use ear tags or tattoos? Why do you prefer that method?
- Miniature Zebu cattle originated in India and are noted as one of the oldest cattle breeds in the world. It is believed they date back as far as 6000 BC. They are known for their gentle, easy-to-raise natures and are extremely intelligent.

Check out our Facebook page to see what our members and others have to say about these topics!

IMZA Members: Send in your articles, photos, show reports or unique events with your miniature zebus for publication in the IMZA CoN*Nection and on the IMZA's website. Sharing your experiences with your fellow members helps everyone learn, including potential new miniature zebu owners! Send to: webmaster@imza.name.

You've been listening! Thanks to all members who have sent in photos and stories!



Sherry Koenig with new calf, JD Summer. Sire is Bogle Farms JD and dam is AC Louise.



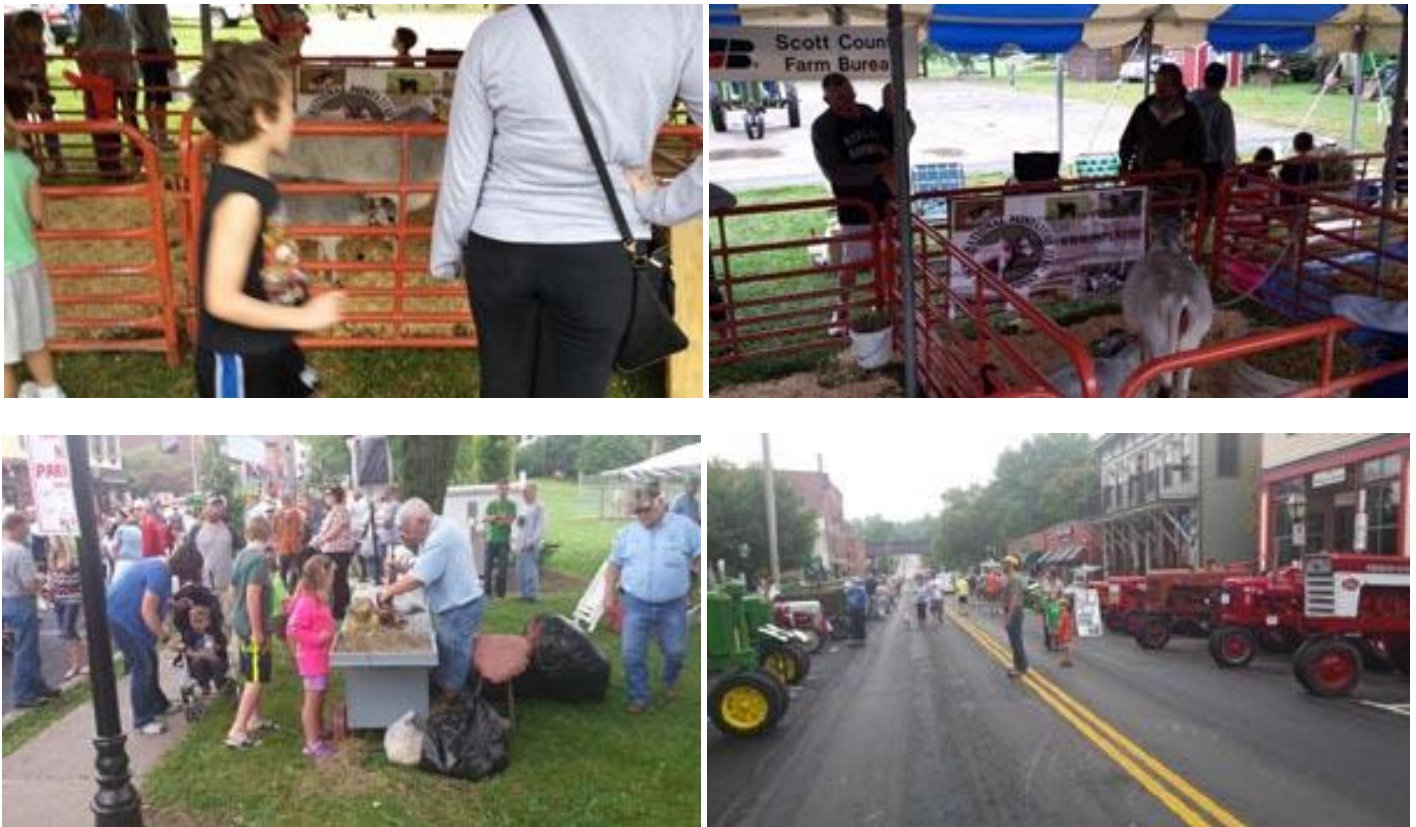
Another of the Kenneth and Sherry Koenig's calves, Sunny Boy. Sire is Chegs Red Bullet and dam is Chegs Yates Center Miss.

Mini Zebus at Farm Days in the Village Event Submitted by Dean Schocker

Scott County Farm Bureau Public Relations Chair, Bob Braden, welcomed urban visitors to the Farm Bureau tent at the Farm Days in the Village event held in East Davenport on August 29th and 30th, 2015, to celebrate local farmers.



Despite the overcast weather over the weekend, visitors, young and old, strolled through antique tractor displays; learned about agriculture through hands-on experiments presented by the North Scott FFA students; went on tractor rides; and visited with farms at the petting area filled with young farm animals. Local Farm Bureau members, Gene, Shirley and Gus Newell brought calves; Sonny Kempf provided goats; Marcella and Ron Schneckloth brought chickens; and Rodney Dietz provided pigs. Dean Schocker, IMZA's Vice President, is also a Farm Bureau member, and he brought his miniature zebus to the event, as well.



Paradise Valley Farm's Traveling Petting Zoo By Abbey Phillips

Here are a couple pictures of some of our Zebus at Paradise Valley Farm in Cleveland, GA.



This is a picture of one of our past babies, Abileen, laying with a baby goat.

As juveniles, our Zebu calves travel all over with our petting zoos to schools, birthday parties and festivals bringing joy to kids of all ages! During Christmas time, our calves will travel around to different churches to be a part of live nativity scenes.

Pictured below is one of our breeding females with a couple of babies that were born earlier this summer. This picture is personally one of my favorites because it shows just how small this breed of cow really is!



FREE Marketing for IMZA Members

Did you know that the IMZA's website has a "LINKS" page where your farm name, location and website link can be listed? It is FREE! Just email webmaster@imza.name and give us your information! Your farm will be added on the next website update.

Remember also that when you become a member of the IMZA, you can advertise your IMZA-registered miniature zebus for sale on our **FREE SALE BOARD** on the IMZA's website at www.imza.name. This is a very active part of the website—people report they are selling their miniature zebus through the Sale Barn. **It's FREE to IMZA members.**

Find Zebus like these on the IMZA's FREE Sale Board on at www.imza.name



Tips for selling on the IMZA Sale Barn:

- Be sure your animal is IMZA-registered and that you are a member of IMZA
 - Fill out the simple form on the Sale Barn page with all information about your animal
 - Don't forget to email the picture to go with your listing to webmaster@imza.name
 - Be sure your picture is no larger than 100kb (about 400 pixels by 400 pixels). If you need to re-size your picture, you can find a free picture-resizing tool at www.picsize.com. It is very simple to use, and it allows you to crop your photos, as well.
 - When you have sold your animal, please let your webmaster@imza.name know—and please let her know which page your animal is on, or give the date of birth and sex of the animal so it can be found easier on the website.
-

Registration News

- Registration tip on Report of Birth: When doing a report of birth, the registrar needs the completed form, the calf's picture (with the mother of the calf if possible) and \$25.00, if you are a member (\$50.00 if not a member).
- Remember, **THERE ARE NO LATE FEES!!!** Send in your registrations today.
- Did you know there are more than **6,700** registered miniature zebus in the IMZA??? WOW!!!

*******REGISTRATION SPECIAL FOR IMZA MEMBERS******* IMZA will give a 20-percent discount to anyone who hardship-registers five animals at one time. Regular Hardship Fee of \$50 would become \$40 (for a total of \$200); and AMZA-registered animals can be registered for \$32 each, instead of \$40 each (for a total of \$160). Hurry while this offer lasts!

Upcoming Miniature Zebu Shows

- The next show for IMZA cattle will be held at the Polk County Youth Fair, Bartow, Florida, on January 28, 2016. The miniature zebu will show at 9:00 a.m. For further information, please contact Rick Bogle at 407-468-9002 or rvbogle@earthlink.net.

First-Time Miniature Zebu Owner Tells His Story By Harris C. Jones

I'm a new member to IMZA, and this had been my first year to own Zebu cattle. I researched and went with the best bloodlines and color I could find in my general area of the country, and it has been very interesting watching these beautiful animals grow and mature. My herd bull is a young two-year-old, and he has been a dream to handle. Sparky is also a heavyweight, weighing in at over 500 pounds and just under 39 inches. I also have a yearling who is currently standing at 27 inches and just over 300 pounds. I've also raised registered Boer goats for several years; and, much to my surprise, my bucks and bulls get along great, even playing games with plastic 55-gallon barrels and feed pans, which definitely get worse for the wear when involved in a pushing match. They also love to play king of the oak log; and my favorite to watch is king of the clay hill.



I made these little play areas for them on the back edges of the pastures against the wooded areas they love to rest in during the heat of the south Georgia summer days, thinking it would be entertaining for the kids and calves as they grow and play. As it turns out, even the more mature animals enjoy playing on the logs and clay hill...even across species. I think that this has helped their physical development as well as their mental attitude while they interact and test each other for strength and agility. I've enclosed a couple of pictures for use if you like. I'm still trying to get a good action shot, but they don't really cooperate when I try to get close enough for a good shot. So far Sparky is king of the hill. I truly do enjoy my Zebus. Thanks, Harris



“Accidental” Miniature Zebu Owners Become Zebu Lovers By Lela Siegel

I thought I would share our recent experience as we progress from “accidental” zebu owners to zebu lovers. Attached is a photo of myself (Lela Siegel) with our new bull, Merle. Here is our story:

It only took about five years in the miniature-farm (more like ag-exemption) business to finally get it right. When my husband and I bought our house on 16 acres, we knew we wanted livestock for the tax benefits; but, with three small children, we decided against anything too high-maintenance or expensive. When we accidentally agreed to keep my mother-in-law's miniature pony and then got hooked into a couple of miniature Sicilian donkeys, I made a joke that if we only had some miniature cows we would have a whole petting zoo. Michael, my husband, didn't laugh. He just looked at me and said, "you *do* know they have those, right?" Disbelieving, I set off to my favorite go-to information source, Google. Sure enough, my first search resulted in information about these adorable little zebu cattle, which, incidentally, were noted to be a great option for ag exemptions because of their size and naturally-small feeding requirement. I immediately went to my next best friend, Craigslist, looking for a local lead on these cute little mini bovine.

Soon enough, we were all lined up to adopt a full-grown tiny cow with a newborn bull calf, for only \$300. This, I thought, would make a nice addition to our growing shrunken farm. Unfortunately, as a bit of a city girl growing up, I was used to only looking at cows from the outside of the fence; which, coincidentally was a good thing since Momma cow and her bull calf (later affectionately known simply as Bully, guess why?) were not fond of people. We watched them from afar for almost four years before I started reading more information about these cows being known for their gentle nature, and we noticed the growing interest in them as specialty show animals.



. . . continued on next page

“Accidental” Miniature Zebu Owners Become Zebu Lovers By Lela Siegel (continued)

With our kids getting to the age where they are wanting to be involved with the animals, and one old enough to join 4-H and begin showing, we decided to look further into restarting our herd with registered stock. Our first acquisition was an unregistered, but easily- hardshipped, bull by the name of Merle. I immediately fell in love with him. His disposition is so different than our original set, and the kids can actually pet him and love him.

For the first time since we brought our animals home, our kids can comfortably roam the pasture and feed the bull from their hands. Like a little lost puppy, he follows us around waiting to have his neck scratched and loves his big hugs and giving kisses. People don't believe me when I tell them that our bull will lay in your lap, if you let him!

Since acquiring Merle we have sold the original set and brought home a nice pair of female counterparts to keep him company. Like the gentleman he is, Merle protects the youngest of the cows who is still a little leary of her new surroundings. Keeping between her and us to make her feel comfortable, but still staying close enough to us to get his scratches and hugs in, Merle is helping Sandy adjust extremely well.

Whether we end up with a few show-quality cows or not, Merle has shown our family that the impossible is indeed, possible. These new pets have stolen our hearts and absolutely solidified my desire to continue to raise zebu for many more years to come.

Danielle Shmalberg of Swallowtail Ranch, Gainesville, FL, sends us these pictures of some of their zebu herd. Check out the IMZA's Featured Photo from 11/15/15 at www.imza.name to see another great example of Danielle's photos.



Yearling Heifer, Mayuri



First-time mom, Viney, with her daughter, Maple.

If you haven't sent in your IMZA membership renewal, it's time! You can join on-line from our website at www.imza.name, or you can mail in your membership application. If your contact information has changed, please forward new information to Dennis Beranek at Beranek@derbyworks.net, or contact the IMZA at imzainfo@gmail.com or 407-717-0084.

**TIME TO RENEW YOUR
IMZA MEMBERSHIP!!!**

Happy Thanksgiving from the IMZA



Photo by Barbara McDermott showing Johnny and Jane West with their miniature zebu bulls (LOL). These Breyer bulls are the perfect size for 1:6 scale miniature zebus. From the length of their horns, you can tell they are a bit older.



**IMZA wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year!!!**





IMZA Membership Application

International Miniature Zebu Association
17500 Hamilton Arms Court, Dewitt, VA 23840
PHONE: (407) 717-0084 – EMAIL: ImzaInfo@gmail.com

I hereby apply for membership in the **INTERNATIONAL MINIATURE ZEBU ASSOCIATION**. If accepted I agree to follow the rules, regulations and bylaws of the association.

A remittance of \$_____ is enclosed for Payment of membership fees payable in U.S. FUNDS).

- Active Membership (\$35 per year)
- Associate Membership (\$25 per year)
- Youth membership (\$15 per year)
- One-year sponsored membership gifted to non-member by active member (\$20 per year)

Date _____ Member No.: (If Renewing) _____

Name of Membership _____
(Individual, Firm, Corp., etc. Cattle are to be registered in this name)

Authorized Signature _____

Complete Address _____

Preferred Contact Phone: _____

Alternate Contact Phone: _____

Email address: _____

Website address: _____

Occupation _____

_____ Preferred Prefix to use when naming your Zebu (to avoid name duplication). (Can be abbreviated form of Ranch/Farm or Business name or can be initials.)

Number of Zebras Owned: _____ Females _____ Males

Please check the information you would like to appear on the IMZA’s Website Member Lists:

_____ Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____ Email _____ Website address

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: IMZA
17500 Hamilton Arms Court, Dewitt, VA 23840