

History and Bloodlines 101

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By Kathy Petersen, Virginia KuneKunes

New Zealand Boar Lines

Te Whangi: The first Willowbank (WB) Te Whangi was registration number 189. His name was Mr. Magoo and he was a black boar with both wattles. He was purchased from J. Te Whangi, who lived around Waitomo for \$400 in 1978. Mr. Magoo passed away in 1988. I have been unable to locate pictures of him for this article. Te Whangi is represented in New Zealand, the UK and a healthy number of boars here in the USA.

Willowbank Te Kuiti: purchased from John Wilson who lived near Waitomo in 1978. Kelly, a magnificent boar, started this line. Kelly was NZ 189a. He was a cream with two wattles pictured below. Kelly sired the first Te Kuiti boar line



However, in 1993, Tutaki Gary produced Te Kuiti V. I am not sure how the Tutaki line produced the Te Kuiti. I could find nothing further on the Te Kuiti line since 1993. Tutaki line was produced from the Ru boar line. I do not see how Te Kuiti line could be present in the USA unless further evidence comes to light.

Willowbank Ru: He is NZ 51. He was from the North Island from Ru Kotaha who lived near Dannevirke, but the kune was thought to have come from the Opotiki area. He was a Black and white boar with no wattles. The Ru lines were created by using Pirihini Bastion NZ 363 x Jacobs Sow NZ A20. The Ru lines are in New Zealand, the UK and here in the USA. Here is a picture found of Pirihini Bastion.



Here is a picture of Willowbank Ru I (NZ 51) which is the original Ru. In this picture he is 15 years old.



Aside from KuneKunes, the only breeds of swine to have wattles are Polish. This gave rise to the theory that American sealers may have brought the ancestors of KuneKunes to New Zealand as a breed known as Poland China Pigs, a Polish-Chinese cross.

By Brandi Thorpe, Historian

US Boar Lines

As you know in the USA we have Andrew, Mahia Love, Boris, Te Whangi, Ru, Tutaki, Tonganui and Tuahuru. So how does the USA have 8 boar bloodlines when there were only 3 original boar bloodlines in NZ? We are going to explore that now.

We will start with Tutaki -

Tutaki - Tutaki was created in New Zealand and can be traced back to the Ru Boar line from Willowbank (NZ 180) and the Kopu line by Willowbank (NZ 199). Pictured below is Willowbank Tutaki I.



Andrew - A piglet in New Zealand (NZ # 1764) was registered as Charming Andrew and registered with a sire of Mako Mahio IV (NZ 1100) x Highland Chloe (NZ 1260). When looking up NZ 1100 no information was given. Upon further research in the New Zealand herd books, I found a new ear tag was given to #1100 and his original number was 390. #390 was sired by Mahia I (A25) Mahia I came from Dave Love, Wangarel Station, Gisborne to the South Island around 1989. Andrew's are all over the USA and can be traced back directly to Mahia in New Zealand.

Mahia Love/Mahia - I was able to trace through the New Zealand Herd books all the way back to the pig pictured below - Mako Mahia (NZ 1100) so the information is the same as above.



This is a Mako Mahia bred by Ian Dawson above (NZ 388)

Tuahuru - In researching this pedigree NZ Tuahuru is (AKBA # 0478) which is the first time this name surfaced, this bloodline designation was picked in the USA. The father of this boar is Sebastien (Ca'rino) NZ 3526. When looking up that sire, it says that he was inspected by a person in New Zealand which means that his heritage is unknown. (This happened often in New Zealand history. KuneKunes would be inspected by a member of the NZ Society and entered into the herd books as purebred but, no known pedigree.)

Boris - This line is shown in the NZ herd books under NZ 2014 when a piglet was bred by P. Tipene and owned by Katie Rigby. The piglets name was LOA Tutaneki and his father is listed as a pig named Boris. I could find no further documentation. However, Cyndi Berry has told me that the Boris line links directly back to Willowbank Te Whangi I.

Tonganui - The first case of this showing in the NZ herd books is under Katie Rigby and NZ 2012. This was a boar born of unknown parentage and was registered by Katie Rigby. So, this bloodline designation was created here in the USA and registered in NZ before any USA registries existed. There were no parents listed for this breeding.

The last two of course, we are all very aware of these lines as they were explored in last month edition and they are Ru and Te Whangi.

Sow Lines

This month we will explore 3 of the original 6 sow lines. This can be very confusing tracing these lines through the USA, UK and New Zealand. Therefore, I am going to break these 6 sow lines into two editions.

The original Willowbank lines are Willowbank Waitomo, Willowbank Kereopa, Willowbank Awakino, Willowbank Marokopa, Willowbank Kopu and Willowbank Tammerdale. For this article, we will explore Waitomo, Kereopa and Awakino.

Willowbank Waitomo – Waitomo I was one of the nine KuneKunes that Willowbank obtained in the split between Staglands and Willowbank. She was from the North Island and was bred by John Wilson who lived near Waitomo. The original Waitomo was a black and white with two wattles. I was able to track 13 Waitomo's before the name was changed. The name change occurred with NZ 1548 Tui Glen Waitomo was bred and her offspring were named Mags Chloe, Mags Uenuku, and Mags Okie. I was only able to find where 1 of these three produced – Mags Uenuku and two generations were produced up to 2006 where the line dead ends with the birth of Tutukinoa Maria Shibaz.. Information from the UK, shows 2 lines going to the Sally line which is in fact represented here in the USA. (We will explore more on the Sally line in the November issue)

Willowbank Kereopa - This sow was acquired through Timi Kereopa and came from the Ruatahuna area. She was black with wattles. Sows bred from her and her decedents were all small framed, short and squat pigs. Kereopa traces through New Zealand to the UK. Willowbank Kereopa XIV was imported to the UK and continued to produce. We have Kereopa's here in the USA as well with the 2010 import done by Goose Meadow.

Willowbank Awakino – This sow came from John Wilson on the North Island. She was black and white with wattles. This line traces all through New Zealand and into the UK with Willowbank VI. This line is here in the USA as well with those 2012 imports.

From those original kunekunes, they were mixed and matched and these lines were created. According to the New Zealand herdbook, Willowbank would mix a sow with a boar and then name that line using a new name.

** My research is pulled from the pedigrees and herdbooks from both registries in the USA, the herd books in New Zealand and the herd books in the UK.

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In the September edition of History & Bloodlines 101, we explored Willowbank Waitomo, Willowbank Kereopa and Willowbank Awakino. This month we will explore the final 3 original lines that Willowbank began with. There does not appear to be a lot of information out there on these three however, I will share with you what I have been able to find.

Willowbank Marakopa – Came from John Wilson of Marakopa. Ginger and black with a small squat type body. I am able to trace this line to 2001 when a replacement tag was issued for Ararewa Marakopa. I am unable to track it further. The information given from the UK shows that there are 9 lines tracing back to Rebecca Gina. It is my belief that, if Marakopa is present here in the USA it is as a Rebecca Gina. When you trace Willowbank Rebecca Gina it traces back to the original Wilsons Gina NZ 55 bred by John Wilson.

Willowbank Kopu – This sow came from the Opotiki area in 1978. This sow had flop ears. I am only seeing a Kopu II in the early days and no off spring after that. This line died out very early or was renamed. According to the research the UK did, this line has 11 lines linking back to Rebecca Gina which of course is from Wilsons Gina as well.

Willowbank Tammerdale – Ginger in color from the Opotiki area. Willowbank Tammerdale was known to be a bit difficult to reproduce. This line did make it to the UK via Willowbank TammerdaleVIII. The farthest I could trace it in the UK was to Long Ash Tammerdale. According to the UK, this line has 1 line to Kereopa.

This can all be very confusing with lines to this and lines to that. So, in summary based on the information obtained from the UK, we have a line of Tammerdale presented here in the USA via Kereopa's. We have Kopu and Marakopa represented here in the Rebecca Gina. Rebecca Gina is a renamed Wilsons Gina line.

Next month, we will explore all the other bloodlines that are here in the USA like Jenny, BH Rebecca Gina, Sally, Trish, Tapeka, Aria Gianna, Wilsons Gina and Rona.

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I hope that you are enjoying our journeys through the many years of heritage of our amazing kunekune breed. Last month we explored the last three of the original sows lines. This month we will explore the sow lines represented here in the USA and what if any they link back to the UK and New Zealand. With the renaming of lines, it is somewhat tricky and difficult to following these lines.

Kereopa – Last month we explored this line as it is an original line linked directly back to Willowbank and the original 6 sow lines.

Awakino – Last month we explored this line as it is an original link linked directly back to Willowbank and the original 6 sow lines.

Sally – The boar side of the Sally can be linked back to Mako Mahia (Mahia Love line) and Highland Chloe. Highland Chloe's mother was Hilldale Highland Chloe (NZH). The Herd books show Chloe tracking to an inspected kune by P. Leek. However the UK shows that the Sally links back to Waitiomo by 2 lines and 2 lines back to Awakino. With either one of these being correct they are both original lines.

Jenny – Now as we know Jenny's are a very well established line here in the USA known for their strong conformation and mothering abilities. Frazier's Jenny (NZ 1672) produced the Charming Jenny lines. Frazier's Jenny came from unknown parents that were inspected P. Leek and registered into the New Zealand herd books. This means that there are no known parentage of the Jenny's and it is not an original line.

Rebecca Gina – The Rebecca Gina first shows up as Marchmont Rebecca Gina born is 1984 (NZ 186) from Willowbank Ru II x Mako Nancy (NZ 185). Mako Nancy's parents were Willow Ru I and Wilsons Gina (NZ 55). Therefore, the Rebecca Gina line is traced back to Wilsons Gina (NZ 55) which was one of the first pigs from the gathering of kunes is 1978 and from the original lines Willowbank was founded from.

BH Rebecca Gina - This BH Rebecca Gina links to the UK to Pioneer Rebecca Gina (BKKPS 052) and follows back to Willowbank Rebecca Gina (BKKPS 003). This one does directly link back to the same original stock but, this Rebecca Gina has a big difference in the lineage along the way to the above Rebecca Gina. Ultimately they link back to the same ones listed above.

Wilsons Gina – As we mentioned above the Rebecca Gina line was created by Wilsons Gina (NZ 55) and turned into the Willowbank Gina line before becoming the Rebecca Gina Line. Information shared from the UK shows that Kopu and

Marakopa lines trace to Wilsons Gina. In fact, 11 lines traced back to Kopu. 9 lines trace to Marakopa.

Trish – Trish began with Charming Trish NZ 1707. This line traces to Goldie (NZ 461) who was born in 1988 from unknown parentage. Goldie was inspected and entered into the herdbooks as so often done in NZ. The information from the UK, shows that this line has one line back to Awakino and one line back to Waitiomo as well.

Rona – This line shows with LOA Rona (NZ 2024) bred by Katie Rigby. The line dead ends simply stating it goes back to Kaigoose Stock but, does not list the parents at all. In following the first stock of Kaigoose, I found they bred NZ 1040 and NZ 1041 which were the first time I see them as breeders listed in the herdbook and when I following the sow of that line she traces back to Wilsons Gina 55. Is this for sure? No but, it is possible.

Tapeka – This line starts here in the USA with NZ Tapeka 1 (AKBA # 0482). I am able to take her to NZ 2184, Gypsyglade Lucy who was bred to a boar that was not registered named Boris and the female was NZ 2182, Parson's Reddy. The reason I mention the unregistered pig named Boris as he is not registered or inspected as a kunekune, he could be the reason there are belts in the Tapeka line. Parsons Reddy was inspected with unknown parents by K. Nicoll.

Aria Giana – This line began here in the US with NZ Aria Giana 1. In tracking her history she tracks back to Wilsons Gina 55. So Aria Giana is a renamed Wilsons Gina.

I hope you enjoyed this edition of your history lesson. Next month, I will do a final summary of all the lines to be used as a quick reference. With next month's edition of History & Bloodlines 101, this section will come to an end. Until next month.....