

# TABAPUÃ

The history of the  
genuinely Brazilian breed



RAUL MARQUES | BRUNO XAVIER

The history of the genuinely Brazilian breed

# TABAPUÃ

Copyright © Grupo Junqueira Rodas

Grupo Junqueira Rodas

Chairman of the Family Board: Maria Teresa Junqueira Rodas

Chairman of the Management Board: Sarita Junqueira Rodas

### Book Production

**Editorial Coordination:** Elaine Madalhano and Andrea Inocente

Comunic Comunicação Corporativa

www.comunic.com.br

**Production and editing:** Raul Marques

**Text:** Raul Marques and Bruno Xavier

**Layout and cover:** Paulo Escabin

**Photos:** Sérgio Isso, Camila Prado Peres de Camargo  
and file of Água Milagrosa Farm

## DEDICATION



This work is dedicated to Fábio Zucchi Rodas, a visionary professional, always ahead of his time, who with great dedication and determination led the Tabapuã breed to national renown, and Rachel Junqueira Rodas, who was one of the greatest enthusiasts and supporters of perpetuation breed and administration of Água Milagrosa Farm.

M357t Marques, Raul, 1980-  
Tabapuã : The history of the genuinely Brazilian breed / Raul Marques, Bruno Xavier. – São José do Rio Preto, SP: Author's Edition, 2019.

80 p. : il., photos (some colored). ; 20 cm.

ISBN: 978-85-922240-9-7

1. Cattle – Tabapuã – Breeds. 2. Livestock – São Paulo (State) – Tabapuã. 3. Tabapuã – São Paulo (State) – History  
4. Escritório-pretense. I. Xavier, Bruno, 1988- II. Title.

CDD – 981.67

Librarian Márcia Vieira – CRB/8 4643

# CONTENTS

---



**10** Água Milagrosa Farm

**14** The origin

**16** The Tabapuã bull

**18** First mating

**20** Second generation

**22** Subsequent generations

**24** First exports



**26** Breed pattern

**28** Formation of Herbs

**30** Consanguinity

**32** Time to register

**34** Mating with other breeds

**37** Final register

**40** Breed differentials

**42** Turning point



**44** Testimony  
by Carlos Arthur Ortenblad

**48** Testimony by  
Fábio Zucchi Rodas

**50** A new time  
on the property

**62** Tabapuã is national  
prominence again



**65** Grand Trophy Room

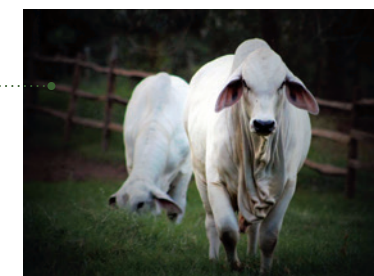
**68** Proof of weight gain

**70** Genetical improvement

**72** A star in the herd

**74** Present and future

**76** The history goes on





# PREFACE

---

I was honored to be invited by the Grupo Junqueira Rodas, especially by Sarita Junqueira Rodas, to write the preface to this book on the Tabapuã breed and the Água Milagrosa Farm.

If we talk about the Tabapuã breed, the Água Milagrosa Farm comes to mind. If we talk about the Água Milagrosa, the image of the Tabapuã breed automatically appears. Both the history of the breed and the farm are closely linked.

I feel free to talk about Tabapuã. I had the first contact with the animals of the breed in the early 1970s, while attending a veterinary college at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG) in Belo Horizonte (MG).

Then in the town of Nanuque (MG), where I lived and worked for three years, I met several creators of Tabapuã in southern Bahia, northern Minas Gerais and northern Espírito Santo.

Later, when I taught at the Faculdade de Zootecnia de Uberaba (FAZU) in 1977, I met Dr. Noel de Souza Sampaio, a great zebu expert and Tabapuã enthusiast. Moreover, I have been a consultant at Água Milagrosa Farm since 1986. I had the opportunity to follow the evolution of the breed at its core.

How many professionals and how many companies tried to 'make' a breed and did not succeed. We may think that the Tabapuã breed was the result of a stroke of luck, but as we study the history of the breed, we see that it is the result of a combination of competence and opportunity.

Competence of Dr. Alberto Ortenblad, who always had in mind what kind of animal he wanted to get, defining clearly to those who would pursue the development of the breed how mating should occur.

Competence assumed by Carlos Arthur, who followed exactly the program outlined by Dr. Alberto, always prioritizing the functionality of

the herd and the result of the zootechnical tests.

The opportunity of the breed came with the arrival of Mr. Fábio Zuchi Rodas, a visionary who believed in the potential of Tabapuã, invested, multiplied and spread the breed throughout Brazil.

Unfortunately, Mr. Fábio spent a short time with us, but the Grupo Junqueira Rodas managed to overcome the difficulties, initially with Mrs. Teresa and currently with Sarita, who holds the chair of the Board of Directors of the Grupo Junqueira Rodas. Keeping the enthusiasm with the breed, but always seeking efficiency and making sure of the best results.

To conclude, Tabapuã animals are medium-sized, of excellent maternal ability, fertile and of good body finishing, that is, thanks to the commitment and the seriousness of the people who participated in the formation and development of the breed, nowadays Tabapuã finds itself in a position of reference for other breeds, both as a model of work and selection, as well as of results achieved.

**Fernando Almeida de Andrade**  
*Veterinarian*



AGUA MILAGROSA





# ÁGUA MILAGROSA FARM

---

At the end of the 19th century, the Danish engineer Charles Arthur Edwin Ortenblad worked at the São Paulo Railways, an English railway that originated Fepasa. His function was to make topographic surveys for future lines, which expanded towards the northern region of the State of São Paulo, little explored until then.

He lived in Jaboticabal and married the Italian immigrant Izabel Lerro. They had two children, Rodolpho (born in 1899) and Alberto (1901). Although professionally successful, Dr. Arthur, as he was known, sometimes stayed three months away from the family without any contact. On the back of donkey and in the woods, he traveled to work up to 250 kilometers from Jaboticabal. The distance from the family made him resign.

With his savings, he bought a small property in the northwestern of São Paulo State, a region he had been to in his travels as an engineer. The place gained his sympathy for the quality of the soil and the abundant water, although distant from any river. It was the village of Rancharia, which later became Tabapuã.

Dr. Arthur left the 'developed' Jaboticabal, with various resources and infrastructure, and moved with his wife and two children to the backlands, where nothing existed: no house, no fence, and no pasture.

With the help of neighbors, he built a house for his family and a small corral. He also opened up a few areas and planted the basics for the survival of the family and for raising small animals.

Without an employee, the couple and their children worked hard. The boys would wake up at dawn to milk the cows. Then they threshed corn to feed the pigs and hens.

The education of children was a priority for the family. Still children

and already literate, Rodolpho and Alberto were taken to an internal college in Araraquara (SP). Later, they graduated in engineering, just like their father, and postgraduated in the United States as well.

The Ortenblad couple invested in growing coffee. With the success of the business and the better financial condition acquired, they bought new lands in the vicinity. Thus, what was a lot of land became a farm with over 1 million of coffee trees. At that time, it was of great importance the partnership with European immigrants, mainly Italians and Spaniards, that formed several colonies in those lands.

Everything began to change with the New York Stock Market Crash (USA) in 1929. The Great Depression came and the coffee prices dropped, making the harvest no interesting. The Federal Government burned its stocks in an attempt to push international prices up.

Dr. Arthur and Mrs. Izabel, who were of advanced age, ran out of cash overnight, even putting a Ford 'Bigode' (model T, year 1929) on an easel because they could not afford to buy gas.

The coffee monoculture gave rise to the planting of rubber trees, orange and castor bean, besides the cattle raising Tabapuã. Alberto was a pioneer in planting rubber trees in the State of São Paulo. The first rubber plantation was formed with seedlings that came from a plantation whose seeds were brought from the Amazon by Marechal Rondon.

The extensive areas of untouched native forest, which remain to this day, deserve special mention. The Ortenblad family was always concerned with avoiding the extinction of native forest essences, such as aroeira, jatobá, jequitibá, combarú, canafistula, ipês, jacarandá paulista, peroba, guapuruvú and angico. Seeds of those species have been provided free of charge to city halls, universities and private producers.

A curiosity: the name Água Milagrosa is related to a well located in the property, probably of sulphurous water, where people bathed to treat rheumatism.

# THE ORIGIN

---

The lineage of the calf that became the Tabapuã bull and originated the breed of the same name from the 1940s onwards is still subject of discussion. To tell this curious story, it is necessary to return even more in time.

The first hornless cattle cores, the main characteristic of Tabapuã, were registered in Brazil at the end of the 19th century. There were herds in at least four states: São Paulo, Minas Gerais, Bahia and particularly Goiás.

There are no reports of hornless cattle in India. It is likely that these animals originate from a country in South America, Africa, Portugal or China. On the other hand, that they have been formed in Brazilian lands.

As the cattle had to walk along the roads, the hornless animal suffered from not being able to defend itself from the other cattle with horns. On arrival at the destination, usually thin and with bruises on the body, did not draw attention of eventual buyers. Therefore, cattle with horns had greater acceptance in the market.

The most well known story of the hornless cattle in Goiás begins in 1903, when Salviano Monteiro Guimarães arrived in Planaltina (GO).

In a short time, he became known as a merchant of goods and cattle. His employees traveled the backlands buying and selling all kinds of products. On the way back, the caravans brought cattle for slaughter or for calves, among which were some hornless animals.

In 1906, José Gomes Louza, farmer of Leopoldo de Bulhões (GO), and friend of Salviano, bought in Araguari (MG) six zebu bulls imported from India. It is believed that this was the first time that zebu cattle arrived in Goiás. Three of the bulls were given to Salviano, who used them to mate with all the “sertanejo” cattle that he acquired in his

business. By realizing the advantages of Zebu, Salviano tried to find more animals in the Triângulo Mineiro. The breed’s fame was already consolidated there. Even Governor João Pinheiro encouraged imports of Indian cattle.

With good results conquered in Goiás, the hornless cattle aroused interest of ranchers from other regions. Júlio do Valle, of Fazenda São José dos Dourados, from Cosmorama (SP), among others.

There is information that he acquired cattle from Francisco Inácio between 1938 and 1939. There were many mongrel animals in the herd. In his travels to buy cattle, Julius often used the Água Milagrosa Farm as a landing.

The good relationship with the Ortenblad family will produce an important fact.

“ THE FIRST HORNLESS CATTLE CORES,  
THE MAIN CHARACTERISTIC OF TABAPUÃ,  
WERE REGISTERED IN BRAZIL AT THE END  
OF THE 19TH CENTURY ”



# THE TABAPUÃ BULL

The first contact of the civil engineer Alberto Ortenblad with the calf that would later be called Tabapuã happened at Fazenda São José dos Dourados, in Cosmorama (SP).

Alberto was traveling and stopped in the lands of his friend Júlio do Valle. That afternoon, there were on the pasture dozens of mongrel zebu calves that would be set apart. Always very interested, the engineer made a point of accompanying the service.

At the end of the work, Júlio asked the visitor to choose one of the animals as a gift due to the excellent relationship he had with the Ortenblad.

The description of the calf indicated is in the book 'The Hornless Tabapuã of Água Milagrosa Farm' (O Môcho Tabapuã da Água Milagrosa Farm), written by Alberto himself.

"This calf chosen by us, a mongrel zebu of unknown affiliation, was not considered, as to its phenotype, close to any of the breeds considered as pure, which were formed at the time (Gir - Nelore - Guzerá). It was an intermediate mongrel zebu between the Nelore and the Guzerá, with no degree of blood defined in any of these breeds."

The animal was taken to the Água Milagrosa Farm, but it did not draw attention at first. It was only closely observed after several months, precisely because it had no horns, a novelty in the herd of the property.

It was a complete hornless, with prominent bony arches in the eye region, great size, well-placed hump, excellent pigmentation, and black hooves and muzzles. Due to its development, it was probable that the young bull was born between the end of 1939 and the beginning of 1940.

Alberto baptized the animal Tabapuã, following the universal tradition of assigning to new animals the name of the locality where they appeared. The bull was identified with the T-0 mark in 1942. Soon after, a file was organized, where the data of all descendants would be noted. They also made

some kind of selection with hornless animals and cattle ranchers Lourival Lousa from Goiás, Omar Cunha from Presidente Prudente (SP) and the Castilho family from Novo Horizonte (SP) deserve to be mentioned. There were still cores of hornless cattle in other municipalities of São Paulo, such as São Carlos, Nova Odessa and Pitangueiras.

However, what differentiated the creation of Alberto and Rodolpho Ortenblad from the other Brazilian hornless cattle ranchers in Brazil was the zootechnical planning, the care in each mating and the record in detail of the evolution of the herd.

All occurrences of all animals were annotated, thus elaborating important functional and economic comparisons.

Besides being a pioneer of the Tabapuã breed, Alberto was a visionary of the field. A well-trained engineering professional at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States, he was uneasy and challenged to improve working conditions around him.

Some of his achievements: industrialization of the garbage of the farm, turning waste into fertilizers, and he was one of the first to implement irrigation in Brazil.



# FIRST MATING

---

With a complete bull in the pasture and the dream of starting a new herd, Alberto and Rodolpho Ortenblad had a challenge ahead: how to form hornless descendants without matrices with this characteristic? The solution was to find horned females, but of a reproductive-like phenotype.

About 100 matrices were selected, Guzerá and Nelore, with some common qualities: meekness, maternal ability and good meat productivity. These cattle would have come mainly from Rio de Janeiro, Alberto's business with the famous cattle rancher João de Abreu.

Two questions were fundamental to the success of the project: the degree of genetic overdominance of the Tabapuã bull and the systematics to be followed.

Hearing the advice of his friend and a kind of technical consultant, Miguel Cione Pardi, scientist and scholar of Brazilian livestock, Alberto adopted the system of continued parental offspring (in-and-in-breeding), for judging it superior to the brotherly or collateral offspring.

Successive mating of paternal, daughters and granddaughters, with their own father and grandfather would be made always in a corral.

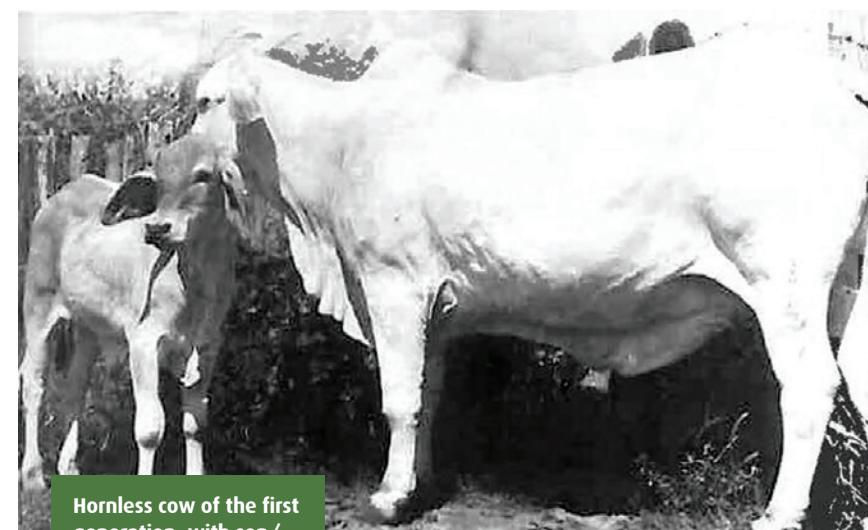
As good as they were, there was no use in this process for first-generation males, so they were castrated and sold for cutting, without even being branded with fire. The exceptions were two sons of Tabapuã donated to Júlio do Valle.

The first generation females were uniform and well developed. Most inherited the hornless characteristic of the father. In 1946, the Tabapuã bull had produced 89 sons and daughters, of whom 80 were hornless and only nine had horns. These numbers guaranteed the breeder the classification of 'classical raiser'.

The geneticist José da Costa Guerra explains the expression in the book 'A problem of animal genetics' (Um problema de genética animal):

"The constancy of dominance of a father characterizes the good breeder, because it reveals the presence of a certain degree of individual hereditary potency. If such predominance acquires a high degree, allowing the individual to transmit his characters through several generations, with relative persistence of the other hereditary sources, the individual acquires, then, the features of the 'classic raiser' or of the 'great raiser'."

The first results were encouraging.



Hornless cow of the first generation, with son/grandson of Tabapuã

“TWO QUESTIONS WERE FUNDAMENTAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE PROJECT: THE DEGREE OF GENETIC OVERDOMINANCE OF THE TABAPUÃ BULL AND THE SYSTEMATICS TO BE FOLLOWED”

## SECOND GENERATION

The second generation of the Tabapuã breed is formed by cows that mated with the Tabapuã T-O bull.

Both the first and the second were not distinguished as to development and conformation. The main difference observed at the time was a better formation of the head in the animals of the second generation.

With the birth of the first and second generations, a selection of the best young bulls was started, since, given the high number of females in the herd, it was impossible for the T-0 bull to mate all of them.

For this stage, there was a great concern with the maintenance of the effects of consanguinity. In order not to put the lineage at risk, distinct families were formed, with the sons receiving the initial letter mark of the breeding bull.

The descendants of the Diamante bull were branded with the letter D, whereas the sons of Besouro carried on the leather the brand B. The new animals did not show any loss of the main characteristics.

Among all sons and grandsons chosen to enter the herd, the greatest highlight was the Horizonte T-135 bull, the son of Tabapuã T-0 and his first and best daughter, Copa T-1. Intensely used in the matings, Horizonte had great influence in the formation and enhancement of the breed.



Alberto Ortenblad with heifers and cows

“ AMONG ALL SONS AND GRANDSONS  
CHOSEN TO ENTER THE HERD, THE GREATEST  
HIGHLIGHT WAS THE HORIZONTE T-135 BULL ”



# SUBSEQUENT GENERATIONS

It took 15 years for the Ortenblad family to be sure that the work of selecting a new breed was consolidated. The project begun at the end of 1942 with the first mating of the Tabapuã bull presented incontestable results when Horizonte's sons reached adulthood in 1957.

Throughout out this process, Alberto and his brother Rodolpho had to face the mourning for the loss of their mother, Mrs. Izabel, who had died in a plane crash in 1950. Novais, municipality next to Tabapuã, paid homage to Mrs. Izabel Lerro Ortenblad named a state school after her years later.

The estate and the cattle of the family were portioned in 1954.

Alberto owned Água Milagrosa Farm and the breeder Horizonte whereas Rodolpho owned Fazenda Santa Cecília in Uchoa (SP).

Even with the certainty that they had created a new breed, the brothers continued their selection and improvement of the herd. Recessive cases were rarer and rarer, and the coat of cattle became lighter in tone, gaining the uniformity desired by the owners.

Despite all the qualities, Tabapuã still had no value in the market, except for slaughter, and could not participate in exhibitions or proofs of weight gain. This was because there was no breed pattern recognized by the regulatory bodies.

It was then that the Ortenblad established the official recognition of the breed, first with the Secretariat of Agriculture of the State of São Paulo and then with the Department of Animal Production of the Ministry of Agriculture.



Third-generation cows in preparation for an exhibition. Hornless Tabapuã began to arouse interest in the late 1950s

“EVEN WITH THE CERTAINTY THAT THEY HAD CREATED A NEW BREED, THE BROTHERS CONTINUED THEIR SELECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE HERD”



# FIRST EXPORTS

---

Without value in the national market, the first big buyer of Tabapuã cattle was an Argentine breeder in 1959. His name was Alfredo Duisberg, owner of the Estância Barmenia, of Cachiqui, Province of Santa Fé. He had visited Água Milagrosa Farm and was delighted with the qualities of the animals.

Two years later, in 1961, a second export to Argentina received attention from the Animal Production Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, which already had information about the brilliant selection work done in Tabapuã.

By order, the entity expressed concern about a possible embezzlement of females, if that second export was authorized:

*“Ministry of Agriculture – Mr. Director:*

*- The breeder Alberto Ortenblad, a farmer in Tabapuã, State of São Paulo, requires a license for export to the Argentine Republic of 28 hornless ‘Nelore’ cattle. Of this total, there are 20 females from 2 to 3 years old, 7 males from 2 to 3 years old and 1 of 5 years old.*

*- Ordinance No. 775, of 07/19/1957, stipulates that export shall be permitted provided it is not inconvenient to the national interest. Dr. Ortenblad’s farmed hornless cattle, undoubtedly, have quality that makes them stand out among beef cattle. There is a need for expansion of his breeding and development in the breeding grounds of beef steers. The number of animals produced by Água Milagrosa Farm is very small, so it is still incipient to create it in our country.*

*- This Section sees with regret that a lot of 20 females seek the way abroad, reducing the small national herd. Submitting to your consideration*

*and in view of the study of the reformulation of Ordinance No. 775 above mentioned, we would consider granting only the permission for export of males and studied the possibility of acquisition by the Ministry of the 20 females to be exported.*

*Selection of Promotion, October 30, 1961.*

*J.N.B. Zany – Chief of Selection of Promotion.”*

Despite the notes of the order, the export was released in December of that same year. Still on the document, it is curious to note that the animals are classified as “hornless Nelores”, precisely because of the inexistence of an official recognition of the Tabapuã breed at the time.

With good development in Argentine lands, it has been proven that Tabapuã is the zebu with the best adaptation to the cold weather.

“ THE FIRST BIG BUYER OF  
TABAPUÃ CATTLE WAS AN  
ARGENTINE BREEDER IN 1959 ”

# BREED PATTERN

Since the beginning of the selection project of the Tabapuã breed, the Água Milagrosa Farm happened to attract many visitors. They were usually creators and technicians who visited there to know the hornless zebu. As the years went by, the fame of the animals increased, as did the number of curious.

One of those visitors was Mr. João Nelson Frota Junior from Rio de Janeiro. Admirer of the livestock, he edited and distributed a free monthly leaflet called “Leather Hat” (Chapéu de Couro) where he spread any subject that he considered to be of interest among the breeders.

João Nelson was so excited with what he saw that he promised to return with a friend. It was none other than João Barisson Villares, then Director of the Animal Production Department of the Secretariat of Agriculture of the State of São Paulo.

From that casualty, then in 1958, the Ortenblad brothers began to keep in touch with Barisson Villares. Moreover, this was a very important ally in the adoption of official measures that led to the constitution of a breed pattern within the State of São Paulo recognized by the Secretariat of Agriculture and definitively fixed in an official file in 1961.

The Ortenblad’s gratitude to the efforts of Barisson Villares was recorded in the book ‘The Hornless Tabapuã of Água Milagrosa Farm’ (O Mochô Tabapuã da Água Milagrosa Farm): “Both we and the country owe Dr. Barisson Villares the protection, guidance and recognition as breed of the strain then known as Tabapuã, created at Água Milagrosa Farm, in the municipality of Tabapuã, SP”.

It was also Barisson Villares who invited the Tabapuã cattle to participate in the first exhibition of its history. The event took place in Água Branca, a noble neighborhood in the city of São Paulo in March 1959.

Its purpose was to spread the new breed and discuss the advantages of

the hornless cattle. The scientist Alfonso Túndisi helped in the selection of the 22 adult animals that were taken to this exhibition. The males and females that were selected illustrated historical aspects and the genetic evolution of the Tabapuã.

In the following years until 1971, the Água Milagrosa Farm participated in exhibitions and proofs of weight gain in São Paulo, Araçatuba, Bauru, Presidente Prudente, Barretos, Ribeirão Preto, São José do Rio Preto and Andradina.

Still without the official recognition of the breed, the animals were registered under the generic name of “Hornless Zebu”.

There were several titles won, especially with the bulls Estiloso (T-308), Crepúsculo (T-310), Sultão (T-402), Labirinto (T-421) and Babaçu (T-1185).

Two other champions deserve even more prominence: Galante (T-410), which was later exported to Argentina, and Baile (T-1210), which in 1971 received the 1st Genealogical Registry of the Tabapuã breed, granted by the Brazilian Association of Zebu Breeders (ABCZ).



Estiloso was an important genearch from 3rd to 4th generations. He is the father of Baile, who received the 1st Genealogical Registry of the Tabapuã

# FORMATION OF HERBS

The implantation of that simple files at the end of 1942 was of great importance in the following decades, when several Tabapuã cattle herds were formed in Água Milagrosa Farm.

The records, with functional and economic information of each animal, helped in the selection of bulls and females for mating.

As in every herd, there was in the estate a 'top', 'middle' and 'bottom' cattle, on a simple scale of values.

Many mating were intended to correct defects, such as darker-fur animals with more than normal sloping haunch or defects of stances.

Those who had some kind of imperfection were called scraps. There were still discards, which should be eliminated for reasons such as age or proven breeding defect.

Careful evaluations avoided the sacrifice of elite animals. Cattle considered good, but which had some undesirable characteristic, were mated with others that would not aggravate the problem, or even correct it.

Alberto wrote in the book 'The Hornless Tabapuã of Água Milagrosa Farm' (O Môcho Tabapuã da Água Milagrosa Farm) about the formation of herds:

"It is not enough, therefore, to know the cattle only from the point of view of phenotype, whose influence on the annual formation of the various herds has a relative weight. It is necessary to know, in a way, its genotype. For this, the record of the performance in the records of each animal is of undeniable importance. It is not concluded from this exposition that the sole objective is to standardize the herd, which would be rational to some extent. Nor is it intended to mate with inferior ends with superiors in order to situate themselves comfortably on average. The objective is to create

more and more an elite, as long as it does not disassociate sharply from the average."

The Água Milagrosa Farm keeps until now, in an adequate and heated room, the records of all the animals. The collection is important and even serves as a basis for research, both by creators and class entities. Alberto's application in the care of the information was fundamental in the recognition process.

The collaborator Jesus Perpétuo Serafim de Souza, who has worked on the estate since 1986, says that Alberto had the habit of noting all the information of each animal, such as name, filiation, weight and date of birth. But not only that. "We had to show him all the calves that were born."

According to Nelson Rodrigues, it was common for Alberto to spend hours in front of the stable to observe the behavior of bulls and cows. "He was organized and knew the history of each one. This made a difference to the success of the breed", recalls the collaborator, who started as a tractor driver and has worked with cattle for three decades.



Old collection of Tabapuã cattle has been kept in the farm until today

# CONSANGUINITY

---

Formed up to its third generation from a single breeder, the T-0 bull, there is no denying the consanguinity of the Tabapuã breed.

Even with the first mating performed between different breeds, since T-0 was a 'ready' Tabapuã, and the females were Guzerá and Nelore, the overdominance of the breeder was remarkable.

With the first mating with daughters and granddaughters, another failure that could have occurred would be the impairment of the reproductive functions. However, they have always kept up at very high rates, countering science once again.

Regarding consanguinity, Professor Octávio Domingues wrote in the book 'Zebu - Its Reproduction and Directed Multiplication' (O Zebu – Sua Reprodução e Multiplicação Dirigida):

“Consanguinity thus is a fatality in enhancement within the same breed. In the face of an exceptional animal, there is no way to stop consanguinity. That is, there is no way to stop reproducing it with its close relatives, since only this way that genotype considered superior will be multiplied.”

With total zootechnical control, Alberto increased his genetic knowledge in each new generation of the Tabapuã breed. The main interest was the characteristics of the animals, their measurements and qualities, but the genetic factor also enchanted.

The enhancement work of the herd was continuous, even with recent advances towards official recognition of the breed.

It was not enough for the herd to grow uniformly. The owners worried and tried to correct every detail, every variation of the fur or other type of defect, although these became rarer and rarer.

“ WITH TOTAL ZOOTECHNICAL CONTROL,  
ALBERTO INCREASED HIS GENETIC  
KNOWLEDGE IN EACH NEW GENERATION  
OF THE TABAPUÃ BREED ”



# TIME TO REGISTER

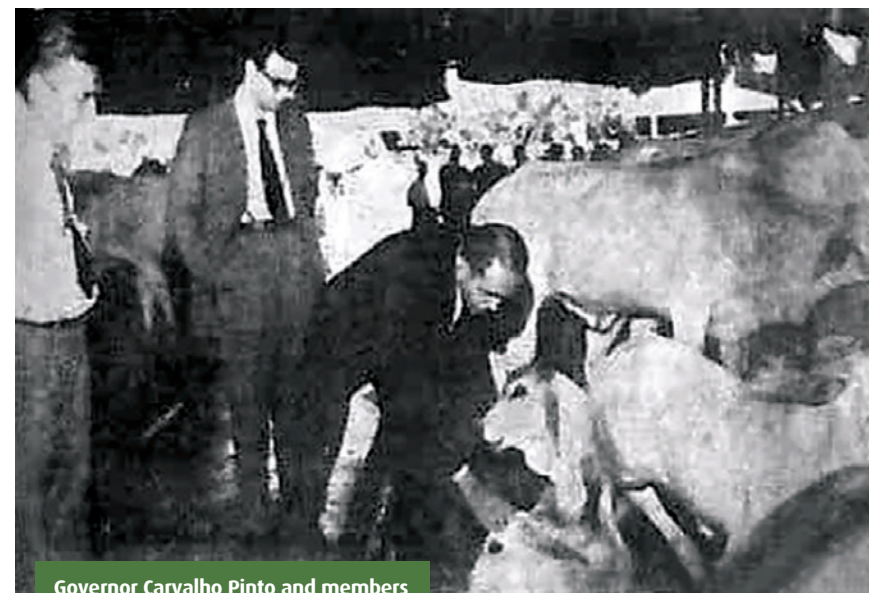
The year of 1961 is emblematic.

The Secretary of Agriculture of the State of São Paulo authorized the beginning of the Genealogical Registry of the Tabapuã breed. A committee consisting of three technicians was set up to conduct the important work. Alfonso Túndisi, Brasileiro Candido Alves and Salvador Berardinelli joined the team.

In the first stage, more than 100 matrices were registered. They were females who met all the requirements of the newly established breed pattern, considered ideal for continuing the studies.

Under the guidance of João Barisson Villares, the technicians determined that the symbol to be branded to represent the record was the letter “K”. Moreover, the identification was done in the Água Milagrosa Farm.

In a demonstration of detachment and scientific spirit, the Ortenblad brothers requested, through an application addressed to the Department of Animal Production, that cattle of other breeders should also be registered, with characteristics similar to the cattle selected by them. A valuable file was being formed at the Secretariat of Agriculture. These documents would be kept by the Department of Animal Production until 1971, when the cattle would be registered by the Brazilian Association of Zebu Breeders (ABCZ), headquartered in Uberaba-MG.



Governor Carvalho Pinto and members of the Government of São Paulo on a visit to hornless Tabapuã in the 1960s



Committee set up by the Ministry of Agriculture, representatives of ABCZ, technicians and breeders. They met at the Água Milagrosa Farm to start the official registration of the hornless Tabapuã





Tabapuã is a very versatile breed



## MATING WITH OTHER BREEDS

Many breeders acquired bulls of the Tabapuã breed. In addition to forming new cores, they wanted to improve the herds of other breeds. They were interested, above all, in a greater production of meat for the beef cattle.

Characteristics of the animals of the Ortenblad brothers, such as extreme docility (facilitating management), sexual precocity and maternal ability were desired by any breeder.

At that time, Água Milagrosa Farm was already a national reference in production.

There are also excellent results obtained from the mating of Tabapuã with other zebu breeds, such as Nelore, Indubrasil, Guzerá and Sindi. This practice also gained strength in the South of the country, where the animals of the Água Milagrosa Farm were mated with cattle of European origin. The creation was closely followed by the scholar Miguel Cione Pardi, and drew attention for the quality of the animals.

However, it was only in the 1980s that other breeders repeated the feat. Once again, the versatility of Tabapuã cattle has been proven.

“CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ANIMALS, SUCH AS EXTREME DOCILITY, SEXUAL PRECOCITY AND MATERNAL ABILITY WERE DESIRED BY ANY BREEDER”

## FINAL REGISTER

With the recognition within the State of São Paulo and the growth of hornless Tabapuã cattle cores in other regions, the Ortenblad brothers once again joined forces and represented all breeders with the aim of officializing the breed nationally.

It was a difficult task, demanding a series of demands to meet all the requirements of the legislation in force. One of the milestones of this process was the constitution, on October 14, 1969, of the Brazilian Association of the Breeders of Hornless Tabapuã, based in Rio de Janeiro. The entity received the registration number 8 in the Register of Associations of the Genealogical Record.

The Minister of Agriculture, Luiz Fernando de Cirne Lima, and his secretary general, Erzelino Arteché, both from Rio Grande do Sul, accepted the study request of hornless Tabapuã with great interest.

They demanded a complete survey of the Director of the Department of Animal Production, Raimundo Cardoso Nogueira. The beginning of the work was authorized by the Ministry of Agriculture through ordinance nº 28, of November 25, 1969:

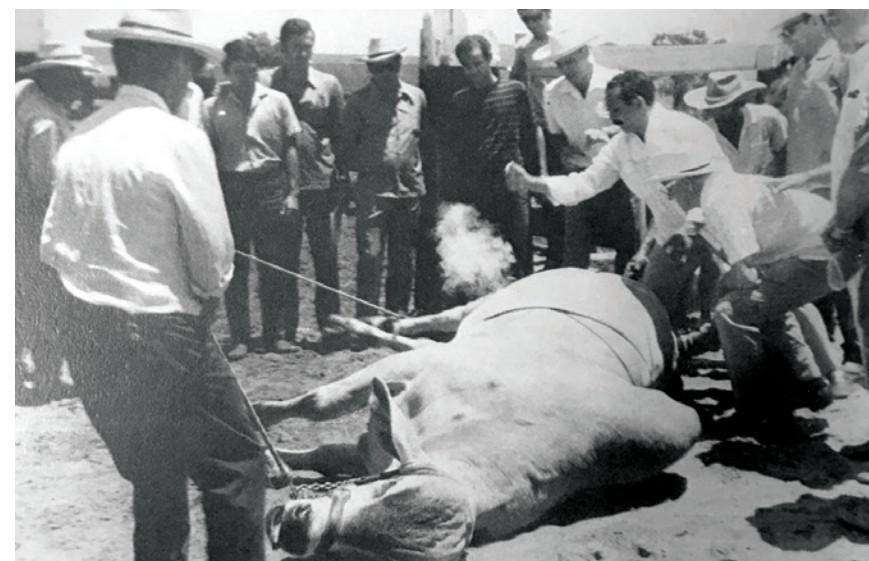
*“RESOLVES to designate a Committee consisted of the Technicians of the Ministry of Agriculture, ULISSES CANSANÇÃO ACIOLI FILHO, Agronomist 21.B, HILTON TELES MENEZES, Veterinarian 22.C, MÁRIO SANTIAGO, Agronomist 22.C and the Directors of the Genealogical Registry Services of Zebu’s Brazilian Association of Breeders - ABCZ - DALÔR TEODORO DE ANDRADE, MÁRIO CRUVINEL BORGES and ANTONIO MARMO MACHADO BORGES, under the chairmanship of the first, proceed in loco, an accurate zootechnical study on the hornless Tabapuã, aiming at the possibility of opening the Genealogical Record Book of the Breed or Tabapuã type, to be defined according to the results of the studies to be carried out, and that Committee should present a detailed and conclusive report on the matter.”*

On January 25, 1970, this committee presented an opinion favoring the establishment of a proper breed pattern to be taken into consideration, examination and decision of the ABCZ Technical Council, for subsequent homologation by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Other requests in favor of the interests of the breeders of Tabapuã were also referred to the Ministry of Agriculture at that time, among them: equating with the other zebu breeds under the control of the ABCZ, genealogical records throughout the national territory and definitive recognition of the breed.

After the bureaucratic procedures, directors of the Ministry of Agriculture, ABCZ and several technicians of the Brazilian cattle ranch met at Água Milagrosa Farm on February 1, 1971 to witness the first official registration. The Baile de Tabapuã (T-1210) bull was chosen, one of the most imposing breeders, four-time national champion, 48 months old and 1,040 kilos.

The record was made in Open Book, and then began a count of 10 years, when new decisions should be taken. Thus, only in 1981, the Ministry of Agriculture set up a new committee, which finally proposed the official recognition of the new breed, simply called Tabapuã, and no more hornless Tabapuã or hornless zebu.



The first officially recorded Tabapuã animal. Baile de Tabapuã, from Água Milagrosa, was branded with the number 1 by Raimundo Cardoso Nogueira, general director of the Department of Animal Production



Baile de Tabapuã (T-1210)



Committee with Ilhada de Tabapuã, the first female of the breed to be registered



# BREED DIFERENCIAIS

The cattle selection planning developed by Água Milagrosa Farm is considered one of the greatest achievements of the Brazilian zootechnics. The Tabapuã arouses interest, among other reasons, by the consistency of its evolution.

There are several advantages of the hornless cattle that appeared in Água Milagrosa Farm in relation to other breeds created in the country.

Fertility and maternal ability, for example, are important issues. At very young age at first labor, matrices have a high fertility rate, and maternal ability ensures good development for calves. The fertility of Tabapuã is above 80%.

The matrices also present good milk production, a characteristic that makes the calves perform better than other zebu of the same age. At 120 days old, they reach 118 kg on average, and at weaning, they have about 200 kg.

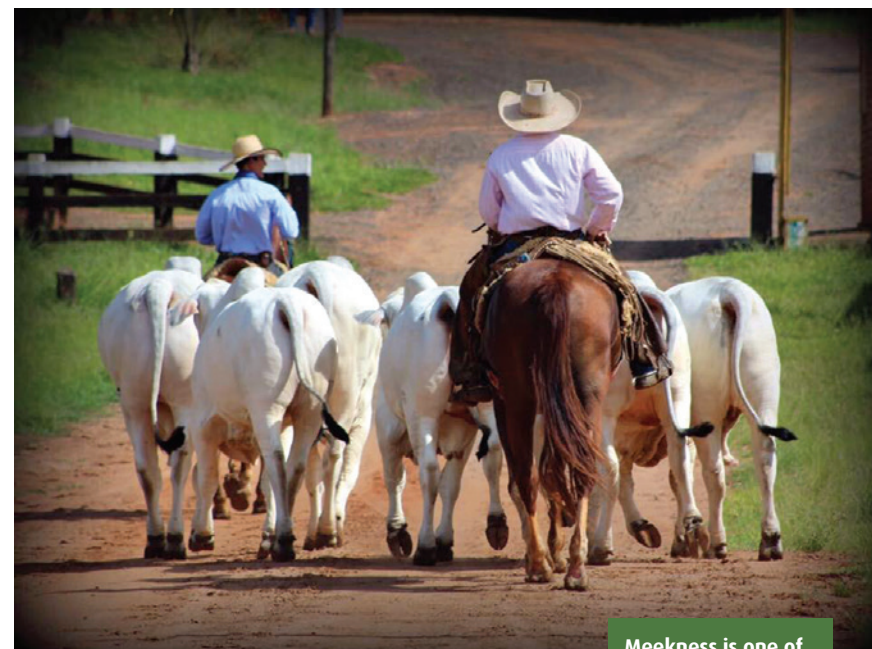
The early age of the first labor and the short interval between subsequent pregnancies are the basis of the birth rate. Regarding this, the Tabapuã proves its value every year in the fairs and exhibitions in which it participates. Another relevant aspect is the ease of management. Meekness is one of the most precious characteristics of the breeders. Without horns, the breed is docile and, therefore, does not stress or lose weight during vaccinations, weighing and transportation.

The Tabapuã is quite docile and accepts easily to be fed in the trough. Thus, it has a good acceptance to confinement. These characteristics of behavior make an ideal cattle, which demands less work and presents more result to the cattle rancher.

In the precocity aspect, the animals are weight champions already at

205 days old and maintains this advantage throughout its development. On average, the oxen reach the slaughtering stage at 30 months old. In pasture or in confinement, they either have good weight gain and demonstrate exemplary body finishing.

Finally, the genetics of Tabapuã proved to be able to eliminate defects and consolidate qualities. As a result, the search for breeders of other breeds by Tabapuã bulls and also lots of semen has increased considerably. Either in dairy or beef cattle, mating results in stronger, docile and better performing animals.



Meekness is one of the most relevant characteristics of the Tabapuã cattle

# TURNING POINT

---

The death of Alberto Ortenblad in 1994 shocked relatives, friends and collaborators, some of them working with him for more than 20 years. Even with the irreparable loss, the pioneering work developed in Tabapuã was not ended.

Alberto's legacy was taken forward with determination and courage, especially with the contribution of his son Carlos Arthur Ortenblad, who had taken over the administration of Água Milagrosa Farm many years earlier.

A decade after Alberto's death, there was no relative interested in managing the property and maintaining what was built in favor of Brazilian agribusiness and cattle-raising. Carlos Arthur counted three decades of contribution.

With intelligence, emotion was put aside in this process. The main concern of the Ortenblad: to find a buyer, not only who met financial condition, but also who maintained the original characteristics and invested in the improvement of the Tabapuã breed.

The proposal was to sell the entire farm, with the 'gate closed'. Separation into parts could even be more profitable, but the traditional activities could hardly be sustained.

"Whoever bought would have to share our understanding that we are only the circumstantial owners of the land and that our mission, besides getting profit, is to contribute to the progress of Brazil", Carlos Arthur wrote in an article published in the magazine *Melhor* in April 2005.

To carry the initial idea forward, they talked to farmers, heard proposals and received interested people.

Then Fábio Zucchi Rodas, one of the greatest and most respected protagonists of the Brazilian agribusiness, who had decided to diversify his

activities, showed interest. They met through Pedro Moreira Salles - friend of Fábio and cousin of Carlos Arthur.

The negotiation took its time during no less than eight months. Dialogue between the parties occurred almost daily.

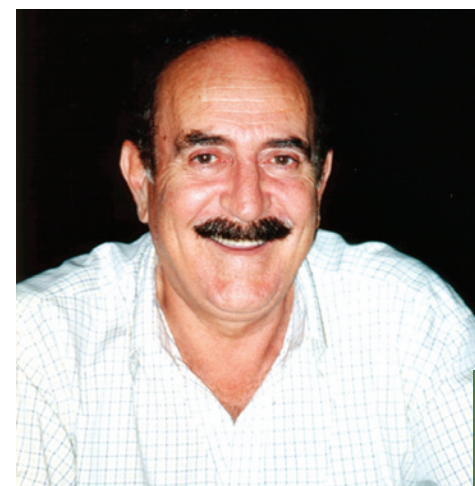
When the Ortenblad family decided on the business, a lunch was offered at the headquarters for Fábio and his wife, Maria Teresa. The negotiation was officially concluded days later at the Junqueira Rodas house in Monte Azul Paulista.

"The Água Milagrosa Farm was famous and acknowledged. We could not afford to pay cash and had to sign a loan agreement because we believed in its potential. Fábio did not understand genetics, but he accepted the challenge", recalls Maria Teresa.

Carlos Arthur, therefore, found the person he was looking for.

"Our greatest goal is to preserve and expand the Tabapuã breed. Therefore, we understand that it is a breed open to Brazil, recognized for its quality", Fábio told *Cultivar* magazine on March 22, 2006. He was president of the Grupo Junqueira Rodas, from Monte Azul Paulista (SP), and was excited about what he found on the property, with its variety of possibilities. There was not just cattle breeding.

The arrival of Fábio Zucchi Rodas inaugurated a new, golden and productive period in the history of the farm.



Fábio Zucchi Rodas is the founder of Grupo Junqueira Rodas

## TESTIMONY BY CARLOS ARTHUR ORTENBLAD

---

For more than one hundred years, my family owned Água Milagrosa Farm. My grandfather Charles Arthur Ortenblad, and especially my father, Alberto Ortenblad, MA, Sc.D., made it nationally and internationally acknowledged. I have sought for the last 33 years, not always successfully, to follow in his footsteps and honor his memory.

Already in the autumn of my life, thinking about succession was inevitable. In January 2004, my brothers and I - with the main objective of preserving the traditions of the Água Milagrosa - studied all possibilities and reached the conclusion that, in the absence of a viable succession, we should sell it as a whole rather than break it, even if this second option could be more profitable.

We then began to look for a candidate who meet the desired profile. In this profile, the availability of capital to acquire Água Milagrosa was a necessary but not sufficient factor. Whoever bought would have to share our understanding that we are only the circumstantial owners of the land and that our mission, besides getting profit, is to contribute to the progress of Brazil.

Whoever would succeed us would therefore need to be a person committed to the generation of enterprise and social welfare; with respect for the environment; with respect to the social function of the land; with respect to contracts and partnerships; and, not least, to preserve our father's greatest work: the Tabapuã breed.

We find these predicates, not only in the person, but also in the family of Fábio Zucchi Rodas, president of Montecitrus, one of the greatest and most respected protagonists of Brazilian agribusiness. If it is with unmistakable sadness that I close this sentence of my phase

of my life, I am also assured that I could not have dreamed of a better successor.

So that transition could take place smoothly, I will remain some more time advising Fábio and will always be at the disposal of all those who, during these three decades, have distinguished me and honored me with their friendship, trust and respect.

Now let's give the floor to Mr. Fábio Zucchi Rodas.

“ THE AVAILABILITY OF CAPITAL TO ACQUIRE ÁGUA MILAGROSA WAS A NECESSARY BUT NOT SUFFICIENT FACTOR. WHOEVER BOUGHT WOULD HAVE TO SHARE OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT WE ARE ONLY THE CIRCUMSTANTIAL OWNERS OF THE LAND AND THAT OUR MISSION, BESIDES GETTING PROFIT, IS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROGRESS OF BRAZIL ”





Água Milagrosa  
Farm headquarters  
in Tabapuã



# TESTIMONY BY FÁBIO ZUCCHI RODAS

---

Thank you very much, Carlos Arthur, thank you very much for the legacy that is being transferred by you and your family, Mrs. Hero, your mother, Maria Elisa, your sister, and Betinho, your brother. The task entrusted to us, is not only that of managers of a farm, but, managers of 'The Farm'. Not just the task of running an agricultural enterprise, but something like a national patrimony, which Água Milagrosa Farm really is.

A very difficult and challenging task is to succeed people like Charles Arthur Ortenblad, your grandfather, the magnificent and brilliant doctor Alberto Ortenblad, your father, and you, Carlos Arthur, to whom we dedicate our deepest respect for your intelligence, preparation, organization, culture and competence, which are peculiar to you.

We were friends, Carlos Arthur, and we became much more. There were almost eight months of contact, in person and by email. We talked almost every day, a time that allowed us to feel our relationship guided by the deepest and most mutual respect. We learnt day after day to respect one another more and more. Character, seriousness, education and respect towards the neighbor are integral parts of your personality.

Theodoro Rodas, our Christian father and spiritualist, taught us: we are not the owners of anything, we are mere agents, with only temporary duty to administer, trying to do it in the most noble and social way possible. Equally and socially, noble and human, is how we see this responsibility, which we now assume.

Thoughts have been many in the last eight months, sometimes and even frequently in the company of our good counselor, the pillow. We had doubts but never faltered. We rely on the ever-winning combination: work, dedication and constancy. We believe and rely on God's help to carry out

the mission that the Ortenblad family gives us and we proudly accept.

Knowing that our permanence in this world is temporary, we request the participation and the commitment of continuity to our family, in which we were promptly attended.

Maria Teresa, my wife, is Junqueira, a descendant family of farmers for countless generations, knowing, therefore, the things of the countryside even more than ourselves. Our daughters, Rachel, Renata and Sarita, are daughters and grandchildren of farmers and ranchers.

Everything that was built by the Ortenblad family will be preserved. The Tabapuã breed will receive the maximum and special attention, counting with the advice of Carlos Arthur, who will help us to walk towards the best efficiency, using his competence and deep knowledge of this exceptional breed.

Miss Hero, Carlos Arthur, Maria Elisa and Betinho continue to make the Água Milagrosa your second home. Promise us. We will always be proud to have you with our family, in the house of your Água Milagrosa Farm and in our house in Monte Azul Paulista. Once again, our many thanks to you.

*Both letters, by Carlos Arthur and Fábio Zucchi Rodas, were published in Melhore magazine, in the April 2005 issue.*



# A NEW TIME ON THE PROPERTY

---

**A**n important change in Água Milagrosa Farm and in the Tabapuã breed took place when Fábio Zucchi Rodas took over business management in 2005. It was a time was of transformation.

He looked at the property as an entrepreneur, a businessman who has a taste for challenge, a person who came from the countryside and who loves the land with all its possibilities, a manager who knows the importance of investing in internal process improvements, quality and technology.

Note: Fábio's expertise was in the area of citriculture, although he had experience with beef cattle farming in Mato Grosso do Sul. The challenge of starting in another sector, that of genetics, brought the spirit to inform, study, talk about the topic, seek information in various fields and understand the business.

He put into practice several important changes in the property, particularly in the matter of infrastructure, but still meeting what was agreed in a gentlemen's agreement when he closed the deal with the Ortenblad. No culture was closed. Investments have been diversified.

One of the first actions was to improve access to the property, which facilitated both locomotion of employees and suppliers as well as customers. He invested in improvements in the headquarters and refurbished all the houses of the colony, which increased the quality of life of the residents. More than 30 families have lived on the farm currently.

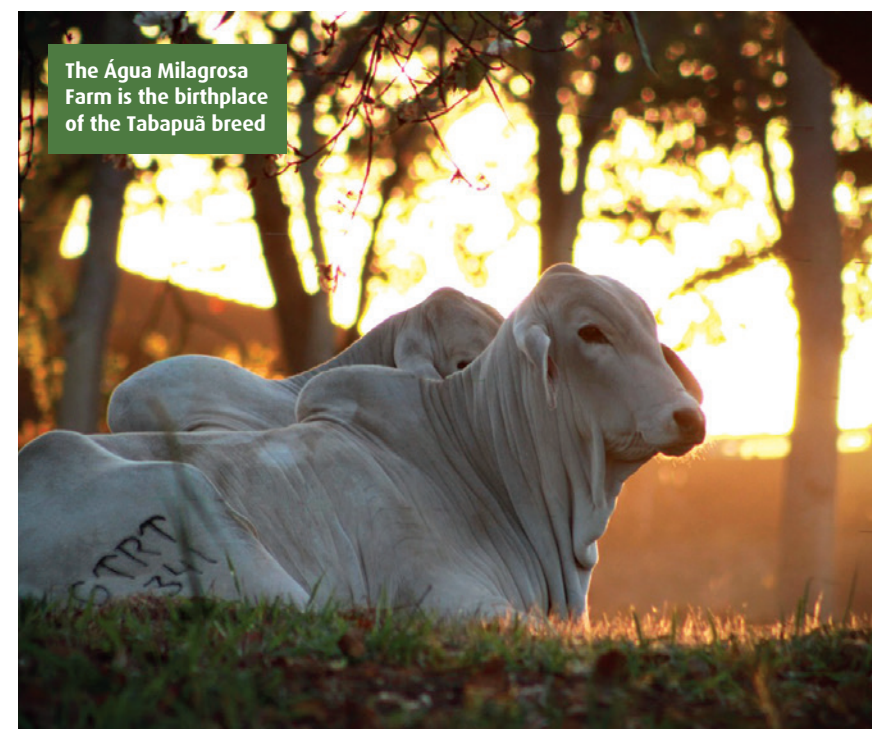
Fábio also listened to the colonists' requests and built one of the most beautiful chapels in the São Paulo Northwest, with a triangular shape, a metal structure and glass. The church is dedicated to Our Lady of Grace, saint of devotion to Rachel, one of her three daughters.

The changes also affected the Tabapuã cattle. Productivity has increased substantially.

The livestock manager of the estate, Paulo Henrique Julião de Camargo, says that Fábio invested in the best animals of breed, in improving pasture and repairing the stables. "He told us, 'let's work with only the best cows'. His proposal, from the beginning, was to improve what already existed."

Fábio brought his collaborators to the Água Milagrosa, kept the professionals who already worked on the farm and hired technicians with representative expertise, such as agronomists and zootechnicians. The formation of this strong team added value, with increased quality and production.

The Água Milagrosa was going through a new period.







Houses of the colony  
were refurbished



Businessman Fábio Rodas  
invested in the improvement  
of the Tabapuã breed







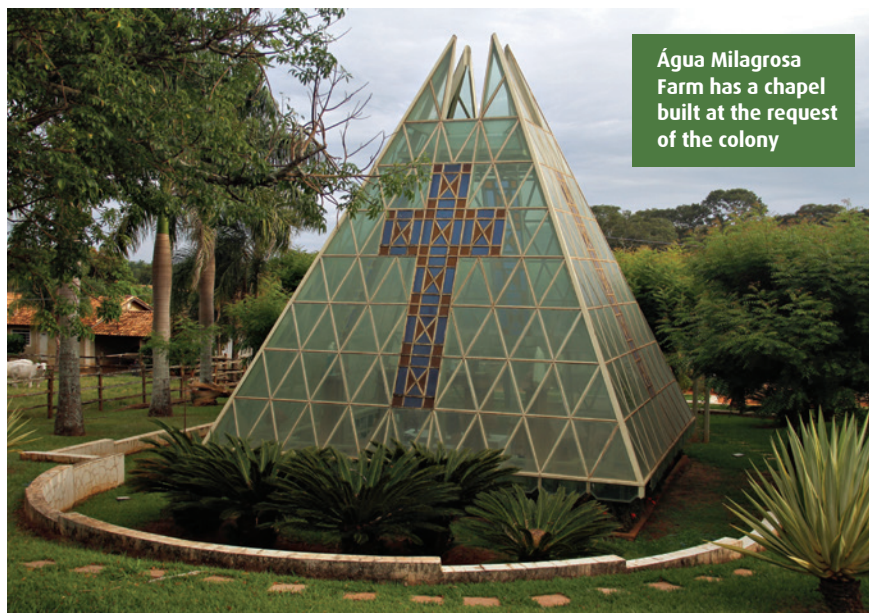
The Tabapuã is a  
Brazilian breed



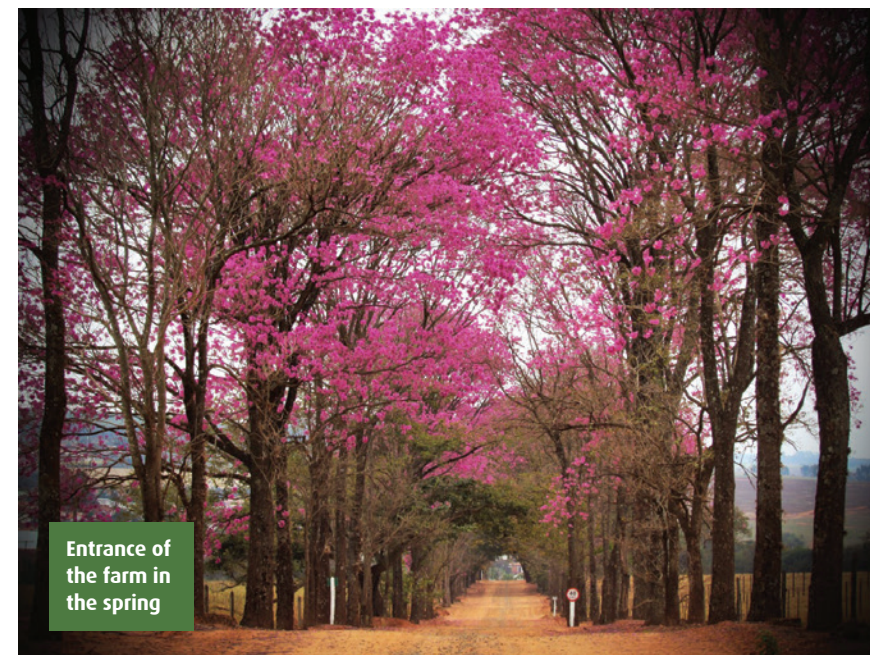


Animals receive special treatment to develop





Água Milagrosa Farm has a chapel built at the request of the colony



Entrance of the farm in the spring



Interior of the chapel, which is dedicated to Our Lady of Grace



The Tabapuã cattle is a docile animal



# TABAPUÃ IS NATIONAL PROMINENCE AGAIN

---

The commercial possibilities, the remarkable differentials and the important qualities of the Tabapuã cattle excited Fábio Zucchi Rodas. In a tireless work carried out between 2005 and 2007, the businessman did not measure efforts, together with his collaborators, to put the breed in the spotlight in the Brazilian scenario. He was also director of ABCZ.

The results were achieved thanks to a series of actions performed with surgical precision, massive investment, organization and planning. He already had an extraordinary product in hand, but there was a need to develop and change the level in the national livestock.

The farm's infrastructure was improved, which also contributed to this process. The businessman went beyond. He began to disclose the predicates of livestock to producers and potential breeders. He gave countless interviews to provide qualified and correct information.

Another very important action was to replace Água Milagrosa in the great national exhibitions of breeders held all over Brazil from 2006 on. For five years the farm had not participated in any event, which is important for the financial health of the business.

The exhibition works as a kind of hall, where the best animals are divided into categories and presented to producers throughout the country, with their histories, essential data, weights and ages.

Disputes are also promoted to serve as comparative, namely it is possible to know where the best cows, bulls and calves are. At the time of purchase, the farmer knows which place to look for.

In those meetings of producers, doses of semen are sold for improving of other herds. There is also a modality where the buyer buys part of the

bull and receives a financial participation in its genetic production.

Another action that made the difference occurred on April 23, 2006, when the 1st Harvest Auction of Água Milagrosa Farm was held. The sector moved, with the sale of 100 matrices with high performance, which yielded R\$ 2 million in business. In the same year and in 2007, two more events were promoted, named Matizes Milagrosas and Safra. In just one year of participation in exhibitions and with the auction, the results appeared in a substantial way. This is what history shows. Investments have also reached other key sectors.

Currently, the property of Tabapuã participates in six or seven exhibitions every year, in the most varied places of the country. It is a remarkable presence at ExpoZebu, in Uberaba (MG), the most relevant event of its kind.



First auction held at Água Milagrosa Farm in 2006

Tabapuã cattle from Água Milagrosa Farm featured in agricultural exhibitions again



## GRAND TROPHY ROOM

The Tabapuã cattle produced in Água Milagrosa Farm is a highlight in agricultural expositions held all over Brazil.

Once the animal is exposed, it readily assumes the protagonism in the event, due to its different physical size and all the qualities it carries.

The two trophy rooms kept in the headquarters show the supremacy of this animal when challenged with other specimens of the same breed.

Since 1963, the Tabapuã cattle from the Água Milagrosa Farm has won the recognition of Brazil's judges.

Only animals under 36 months old can participate in these events, where only the best are taken to the public evaluation.

The contests involve calves, heifers, cows and bulls, which are divided into categories and compete with very similar competitors.

The main champions of the country currently belong to Água Milagrosa Farm, always awarded with trophies.

“SINCE 1963, THE TABAPUÃ CATTLE FROM THE ÁGUA MILAGROSA FARM HAS WON THE RECOGNITION OF BRAZIL'S JUDGES”



Água Milagrosa Farm wins the two main championships in Dourados (MS)





The trophy room is located in the office of the Água Milagrosa Farm



First medal won by Água Milagrosa Farm, in the 1st Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition of Novo Horizonte in 1963



Cups have been obtained in contests held all over Brazil since 1963



# PROOF OF WEIGHT GAIN

---

**T**he Água Milagrosa Farm systematically invests in proofs of weight gain with the Tabapuã breed. The event is repeated at least three times a year.

The procedure is an important tool to identify which animals are genetically superior, since the participants have similar ages and are submitted to the same environmental and management factors.

Over 1,000 individuals on the property have been submitted to this proof, which is performed by accredited ABCZ technicians. At the end of the proof, certificates are issued with the data of each participant. Future buyers, especially from the beef cattle area, will have access to information on the best specimens in the country.

The proof is performed during the 168-day period, with at least eight males and three weighings are performed: input, initial and final. There are also intermediate weighings, every 28 days, for possible correction of the feed used, where animals between 8 and 10 months old can participate. A highlight of the Água Milagrosa until 2017 was Sibilino bull, which gained a little more than one kilo and five hundred grams each day.

Emir Antônio de Queiroz, who works with the proof of weight gain for ABCZ, states that at the end of the proofs, the cattle may receive one of four classifications: elite, upper, regular or lower.

“Fábio Zucchi Rodas invested heavily in the improvement of the breed, always with the assistance of the ABCZ. The quality of the herd of Água Milagrosa Farm has improved greatly”, says Emir.



Animals are submitted to three weighings in the proof of weight gain

“ THE ÁGUA MILAGROSA FARM SYSTEMATICALLY INVESTS IN PROOFS OF WEIGHT GAIN WITH THE TABAPUÃ BREED. THE EVENT IS REPEATED AT LEAST THREE TIMES A YEAR ”



# GENETICAL IMPROVEMENT

---

An important chapter in the history of Tabapuã cattle began to be written in 2006. From then on, the farm invested in in vitro fertilization (IVF), whose objective is to accelerate the production of genetically superior cattle. The program has been extended since 2008. The famous technique of genetic improvement consists in the placement, in laboratory environment, of a significant number of spermatozoa and ovules. After incubation period, the embryos are formed and transferred to the recipient cows.

Genetic evolution is one of the main factors for the growth of Brazilian cattle ranching. This is what Embrapa, the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation, says. The improvement helps in the strengthening of less commercial breeds and the improvement of breeds already introduced in the meat market.

The animals in the property are used only for the improvement, with a profile more advantageous for the producer and the consumer. “Females have high rates of maternal ability and at 18 months old have more than 80% of fertility”, says the livestock manager of Água Milagrosa, Paulo Camargo.

The production of semen of certain bulls is frozen in the farm itself for future inseminations. There is a bench made of material with the highest quality. The breeding period begins at two and continues until 10 years old. Even after death, it can continue to generate offspring.

These procedures are documented, supervised by competent bodies and promoted according to the norms of the legislation that governs the sector. When an animal is sold, it is delivered with full birth record (with names of father and mother), certificate of proof of weight gain, andrologi-

cal examination and in vitro fertilization documents.

The Tabapuã cattle from Água Milagrosa Farm has provenance.

If it is marketed and does not reproduce, it can be exchanged for another. Ethics, dedication to improving the breed and the work carried out seriously by Água Milagrosa Farm are brands acknowledged in the market and reaffirmed by the management of Fábio Zucchi Rodas.



Genetic material is adequately stored in safe containers

# A STAR IN THE HERD

A star of the herd of the Água Milagrosa Farm is the Radiado bull (T-3506). The animal is a great champion at ExpoZebu in Uberaba (MG). It won the trophy of the Junior category in 2014 and won the main title the following year.

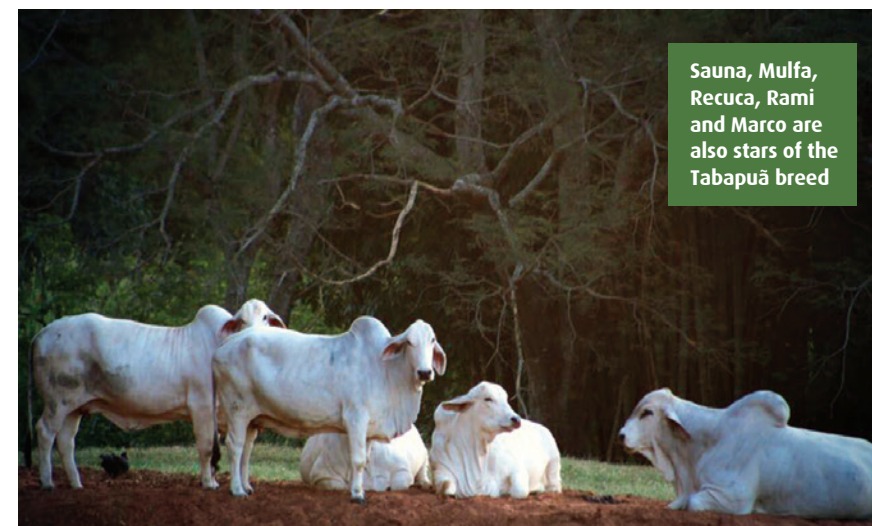
Radiado FIV de Tabapuã was born on March 21, 2013. FIV, its middle name, means that it was a test-tube baby, which is, generated from in vitro fertilization. It weighs 960 kilograms and stands out in reproduction;

in only one year, in 2015, Radiado provided 12,000 doses of semen for breeding, besides that, its genetic material has already originated hundreds of descendants across Brazil. It is one of the great exponents of Água Milagrosa Farm, as well as Sauna, Mulfa, Recuca, Rami and Marco.

“THE RADIADO BULL (T-3506) IS A GREAT CHAMPION AT THE EXPOZEBU OF UBERABA (MG). IT WON THE TROPHY IN THE JUNIOR CATEGORY IN 2014 AND WON THE MAIN TITLE THE FOLLOWING YEAR”



Radiado bull is a great champion



Sauna, Mulfa, Recuca, Rami and Marco are also stars of the Tabapuã breed



# PRESENT AND FUTURE

Thanks to the pioneering work developed at Água Milagrosa Farm, Tabapuã cattle, a typical Brazilian breed, gained its place in the market, the admiration of breeders and the sympathy of businessmen.

The Água Milagrosa does not exist only to keep a herd confined to the headquarters, ready for sale, its function is noble and fundamental for the growth of livestock, responsible for enhance the species, with genetic improvement.

With the combination of correct internal processes, participation of experienced and qualified professionals and approval in tests promoted by accredited associations, the Tabapuã cattle are prepared to increase the quality of other herds and also for cutting.

The development of Tabapuã is carried out by the Grupo Junqueira Rodas, responsible for its management since 2005, with important investments in technology, cutting-edge research, other forms of management and improvement in food and infrastructure.

The policy is to work hard to offer breeders a differentiated product with proven origins and the quest for excellence is continuous.

The excellent treatment offered to the animals and the advantages of the breed collaborate towards Água Milagrosa Farm can win countless prizes in agricultural exhibitions held all over the country.

The goal is to broaden the breed and spread throughout Brazil how it can make a difference to the development of livestock and the national economy itself.

The Tabapuã cattle are one of the greatest achievements of the Brazilian zootechnics, a zebu breed adapted to our culture, our reality, our climate and our geographic characteristics, a true national patrimony.



The Tabapuã breed is a great achievement of the Brazilian zootechnics

“ THE DEVELOPMENT OF TABAPUÃ IS CARRIED OUT BY THE GRUPO JUNQUEIRA RODAS, RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS MANAGEMENT SINCE 2005, WITH IMPORTANT INVESTMENTS IN TECHNOLOGY, CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH, OTHER FORMS OF MANAGEMENT AND IMPROVEMENT IN FOOD AND INFRASTRUCTURE ”

# THE HISTORY GOES ON

---

The history of the Tabapuã cattle and the Água Milagrosa Farm does not end at this point. It continues active, alive, vigorously advancing and changing at every moment, with new entrepreneurial actions, investment in research, technology and innovation, opening of new fields and conquest of other territories.

The next steps, both now and in the future, will be taken with the security of who knows what it does.

The work was written with the aim of safeguarding, with due deference, the trajectories of Água Milagrosa Farm, Tabapuã cattle and the Grupo Junqueira Rodas, from the origin to the present day. It is a broad document as it brings information, striking dates and the names of people who have contributed.

The proposal was to elaborate the narrative with differentiated text, without the cold objectivity of the hard news, but with the subtleties of literary journalism.

The photographs help to enrich the project, since they bring expansive information of determined time, fact or event. A series of important moments are eternalized in images and will be understood in various ways, from the eyes of each one.

The book is a unique opportunity to travel through the past, to better understand the present and to envision the future. The next chapters are open, ready to be written. You, the client, the collaborator, the friend, the investor or the partner, are the star of this great, inspiring, and continuous story.



“ THE WORK WAS WRITTEN WITH THE AIM OF SAFEGUARDING, WITH DUE DEFERENCE, THE TRAJECTORIES OF ÁGUA MILAGROSA FARM, TABAPUÃ CATTLE AND THE GRUPO JUNQUEIRA RODAS, FROM THE ORIGIN TO THE PRESENT DAY ”



# BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

**‘O Môcho Tabapuã da Fazenda Água Milagrosa,’**  
by Alberto Ortenblad

**‘Tabapuã - A Raça Brasileira,’**  
by Rinaldo dos Santos

**‘Um problema de genética animal,’**  
by José da Costa Guerra

**‘O Zebu – Sua Reprodução e Multiplicação Dirigida,’**  
by Octávio Domingues





## **Fazenda Água Milagrosa**

Caixa Postal nº 23, CEP 15880-000, Tabapuã/SP.

Tel.: (17) 3562-1711/FAX: (17) 3562-1499

[fazenda@aguamilagrosa.com.br](mailto:fazenda@aguamilagrosa.com.br)

[www.aguamilagrosa.com.br](http://www.aguamilagrosa.com.br)