



news release

Three times lucky for Joyetta Holsteins

The Depiazzi family of Joyetta Holsteins, Dardanup, have notched up their third win in the Western Australia section of the Semex Holstein Australia On-Farm Competition, the country's largest livestock competition.

Conducted by the breed association, Holstein Australia, in conjunction with leading artificial breeding organisation, Semex Pty Ltd, this prestigious competition attracts about 2,500 entries from 500 breeders throughout Australia each year.

Unlike traditional shows, cattle are assessed for their structural correctness on their home property. This unique format allows all breeders to compete on an equal basis, regardless of their location.

Each of Holstein Australia's 32 sub-branches conducts its own competition during October, with the first and second placegetters "over-judged" in early November to determine a number of regional championships.

The WA section of the competition, which attracted 73 entries from 14 breeders, was judged by David Kerber of Goldwyn Holsteins, Woodside, SA.

For the third time in the competition's four-year history, a Joyetta heifer was named the Junior Two Year Old Champion. "We've won the Junior Two every time, except for last year when we didn't enter," Phil Depiazzi said.

This year's winner was Joyetta Durable Carol 469, who is by a home-bred Juror son and from a VG86 Donor dam. She is producing 28 litres a day a month into her lactation.

"We've got some pretty handy heifers by this bull," Phil said. "His mother goes back to Normac Royal Mistress at Meadow Bridge in Canada."

Danny, Pam and Peter Harris of Dromana Holsteins, Dardanup, bred and entered the Senior Two Year Old Champion, Dromana Luckystrike Graceful, who is backed by six consecutive generations of VG dams.

Peter Harris said the Graceful family, which is noted for its quality udders, traces back to a VG89 Commissioner daughter bred by the Bett family in WA. "We've had a string of seconds in this competition, including the runner-up in this year's Four Year Old class, Dromana CR Gold Midas, but this is our first win," he said.

The Dardanup district also delivered the Three Year Old Champion, Brooklane Bullion Amanda VG87, a Bullion x Judge x Black Joker daughter bred by Cecil and Iris Mountford and their son, Stephen, of Brooklane Holsteins.

As a two-year-old, Amanda produced 7,514 litres of milk at 4.0% fat (301kg) and 3.6% protein (271kg). Her dam was one of Brooklane's top production cows. The Mountfords also provided the runner-up in the Three Year Old class, Brooklane Luckystrike Magic.

The Four Year Old Champion was Treeton Donor Sylvia VG87, a Donor x Luke x Stardom daughter bred by Geoff and Lorraine Jenkins of Treeton Holsteins, Cowaramup. She was Champion Holstein and Best Udder at last year's Margaret River Show.

"Sylvia's maternal grand-dam, Treeton Stardom Sylvia, is nearly 14 years old and she's still in our herd," Geoff Jenkins said. "She has produced more than 110,000 litres in her lifetime and is still going strong."

Ray, Lois and Michael Blackburn of Burnvale Holsteins, Cookernup followed up their success in last year's Senior Two Year Old class by winning this year's Mature Championship with Burnvale Juror Belle EX-5E.

The rising nine-year-old holds the maximum classification for her seven calvings. She has produced up to 11,783 litres with 4.3% fat (506kg) and 3.4% protein (400kg).

A Juror x Gobi x Sterling daughter, Belle holds a Holstein Australia Superior Type and Production (STP) Award. The Blackburns also supplied the runner-up in the Senior Two Year Old class, with the Comestar Outside daughter, Burnvale Outside Posch.

Other successful breeders in the WA competition included J. & M. Kitchen of Carenda Holsteins, Boyanup and C. Gilbert, Nairobi Holsteins, North Dandalup.

Now in its sixth year, the Semex Holstein Australia On-Farm Competition is acknowledged as one of the world's great dairy judging events.

"This competition recognises the efforts of dairy farmers to improve their on-farm profitability by breeding quality dairy cows," Semex General Manager, Jim Conroy, said.

"The sheer size of this event is a credit to the efforts of the hundreds of the Holstein breeders who enter each year and the numerous branch officials and judges who make it happen."

Semex Pty Ltd is the exclusive Australian distributor of livestock genetics marketed by the Semex Alliance, the world's largest artificial breeding organisation.

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2006 SEMEX HOLSTEIN AUSTRALIA ON-FARM COMPETITION

WESTERN AUSTRALIA SUB-BRANCH

JUNIOR TWO YEAR OLD 1st: Joyetta Durable Carol 469, Depiazzi family, Joyetta Holsteins, Dardanup, WA. **2nd:** Carenda Tiller Sassy, J. & M. Kitchen, Carenda Holsteins, Boyanup, WA. **SENIOR TWO YEAR OLD 1st:** Dromana Luckystrike Graceful, Harris family, Dromana Holsteins, Dardanup, WA. **2nd:** Burnvale Outside Posch, Blackburn family, Burnvale Holsteins, Cookernup, WA. **THREE YEAR OLD 1st:** Brooklane Bullion Amanda, C. & I. Mountford, Brooklane Holsteins, Dardanup, WA. **2nd:** Brooklane Luckystrike Magic, C. & I. Mountford, Brooklane Holsteins, Dardanup, WA. **FOUR YEAR OLD 1st:** Treeton Donor Sylvia, G. & L. Jenkins, Treeton Holsteins, Cowaramup, WA. **2nd:** Dromana CR Gold Midas, Harris family, Dromana Holsteins, Dardanup, WA. **MATURE 1st:** Burnvale Juror Belle, Blackburn family, Burnvale Holsteins, Cookernup, WA. **2nd:** Nairobi Countess 28, C. Gilbert, Nairobi Holsteins, North Dandalup, WA.