

NORTH WEST VICTORIA

COW OF THE YEAR 2011

The winners of the 2011 Holstein Cow of the Year for North West Victoria have been announced, and in a tight contest, it was the Ladino Park Talent daughter Hullabaloo Ladino LuckyLeesa EX91 taking the senior cow honors, while Gorbro Final Wattle VG87 received the intermediate title. The Bert Hahn Trophy for the Premier Exhibitor for 2011 went to the Gordon family of Leitchville, Gorbro Holsteins. Rick and Tina Wishart of Rowlands Park received the Dale Thompson Memorial Trophy for their much admired Shottle heifer, Rowlands Park Shottle Lucky GP84.

Hullabaloo Ladino LuckyLeesa traces back to the well known Glomar Blackstar Lucky EX via an 88point Basar and 88point Fatal, but her arrival was a very fortunate mistake. "We bought Leesa's dam, Anstein Basar LuckyLeesa VG88, at Anthony Steinert's sale as an empty flush cow. But when we got her home, we discovered she was actually in-calf." Leesa's owner Brett Lunghusen said. Several months later, a heifer calf was born, and DNA results proved the Basar had held to her last recorded service - Ladino Park Talent. The cross proved to be a great one, as Ladino LuckyLeesa went on to take Intermediate Champion at Rochester 2009, Reserve Senior Champion In Milk Heifer handled by a senior leader International Dairy Week 2008, 2nd 3yr Old In Milk North West On Farm Competition 2008, a finalist in the All Australian 2 year old for 2008 and North West Victoria's Intermediate Cow of the Year 2009.

In 2010, Leesa stepped out as a mature cow, and did not disappoint. In the Semex On Farm Challenge, Leesa topped her age group in the North West, and then went on to State level, taking the highest pointed five year old in the Northern Region. At the 2010 North West Spring Feature, Leesa was named Reserve Champion Cow after winning the five year old class and best udder of show. Then in January, Leesa lined up in 6th place in a star studded six year old class at International Dairy Week. And to top off her achievements, the Holstein classifier recognized her quality by lifting her score to Excellent 91 points, with a 95 point mammary!

The Runner Up to Leesa was Gorbro Ninefold Swerl VG88. Ninefold Swerl completes 6 generations of Very Good or Excellent scored cows. Her dam, Ingoldale Dust Swerl VG87 was purchased at the 1996 North West Stars of the Future Sale. Ninefold Swerl has been a class winner at Cohuna and Echuca on a number of occasions as well as having regular success in the On Farm Challenge.

The Intermediate North West Cow of the Year for 2011 was Gorbro Final Wattle VG 87. The classy Final Cut daughter made her debut in the On Farm Challenge in 2010 where she won the 3 year old Class. Wattle then went on to win Intermediate Champion at the North West Spring Feature in Echuca, as well as maintaining her form in the Autumn where she won her class at the 2011 Autumn Feature.

Final Wattle completes 5 generations of VG or EX cows, with her dam, Gorbro Winluke Wattle, recently scored EX91 as a 12 year old. Owner Glen Gordon is a big fan the young cow. "Final Wattle is the result of a split embryo, and so along with 3 other ET sisters, there is a genetically identical sister, Gorbro Final C Wattle," says Glen. "Final C Wattle is very very similar to her sister, and it was difficult to choose which Wattle to campaign." Maybe Final C Wattle will get her chance to shine too when she calves again.

Like the Senior Cow of the Year, the Junior Cow of the Year, Rowlands Park Shottle Lucky GP84 also traces her pedigree back to the amazing brood cow Glomar Blackstar Lucky Ex. The Wishart family of Cohuna purchased Shottle Lucky's dam at the Marion Dale herd dispersal. Marion Dale Lucky 2nd VG88, sired by popular Dutch bull Etazon Celcius, is an ET sister to the well respected Marion Dale Lucky EX92, who in turn is the dam of the popular Australian proven Jocko son LionHart.

"Lucky 2nd had a bull contract with Semex when we bought her." said Rick Wishart. "Unfortunately she had twins and we lost them both." Shottle Lucky does however have a maternal brother by Roumare who is a progeny test sire at AgriGene, and a fancy Bolton sister, also at the Wisharts. Shottle Lucky recently calved again, and the Wishart's hope to put her in a flush program later this year.



HULLABALOO LADINO LUCKY LEESA



GORBRO NINEFOLD SWERL



GORBRO FINAL WATTLE