

# Holstein Journal

AUSTRALIA

WINTER 2019



**April ABV  
release**

**Master Breeder  
profiles**

**Herd '19  
roundup**

LEAD INNOVATE DELIVER



29H017458

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- ♦ Elite health traits
- ♦ Available late June
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Persuade 4th dam: Larcrest Comet VG-87  
(photo Beth Herges)

29H018698

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- ♦ Excellent health traits



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29H017429

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- ♦ High Productive Life +7.4
- ♦ Outstanding gBPI\$ 329



– Jerónimo dam: ABS 7726 Jazlyn P-ET (photo Beth Herges) – Harper dam: Cookiecutter Epic Hazel-ET EX-91 (photo Cybil Fisher) – Crimson dam: Endco Rubicon Cora-ET GP-83 (photo Beth Herges)



Good Bulls Guide



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COVER: Russ McMillan, Bronte Park Holsteins, NVic was among the first farmers to see Holstein Australia's new report, the Herd Genetic Stocktake. see page 23.



# BPI LEADER!

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milking daughters*

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14HO07328 COASTAL-VIEW MOOKIE-ET  
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## WWS

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# President's message

Patrick Glass  
President, Holstein Australia



## Holstein Australia 'state of the nation' report

**A**s this is the last Journal of the current financial year, I want to update members with where the Association is at financially, utilisation of our services by members and changes being implemented in the 2019/20 financial year. The past year has been one of the most difficult in living memory. As a result, we have seen some members exit the industry, and many more strongly challenged financially.

If, at any time, the Association can assist members in maintaining their registrations through long-term payment plans I urge members to consider this. Even though times are tough, recent sales have shown that the margin between registered Holsteins and all other dairy cattle remains significant, recognising generally a lifetime of effort in breeding better cattle.

### Financial update

As of 30 April, we have seen a significant turnaround in Holstein Australia's finances. The major contributors to this improved position have been an extremely strong export market and on-going expense reductions.

On the negative side, member service usage is down with registrations well below last year and classification down.

A disappointing note is that the number of transfers processed is also down, which I do not believe is a reflection of activity but more that a proportion of members are not transferring cattle when sold. I have heard more than a few times that transfers weren't done as the purchaser was not interested in the registration papers. It is the responsibility of members to transfer any animals sold as registered cattle regardless of the position of the purchaser. This is the only way to constantly keep the database accurate.

Some of the headline financials are: Overall Net Profit is \$161,584 compared to a loss of -\$430,160 for the same period last year, a turnaround of +\$591,744.

A tremendous result considering the current environment we are operating in. We recognise the important and significant role export is playing and understand it is revenue that is difficult to plan for as we look to finalise budgets for 2019/20.

Considerable expense savings have been achieved, including for classification (\$96,173), Technical (\$82,225) and Member Services (\$47,020).

Employment expenses are \$176,845 below the previous year reflecting a number of staff changes implemented over the past 18 months. There is always a balance of managing expenses while still maintaining staff to deliver services efficiently, which has been a priority for the Board.

### 2019/20 changes

There are two important changes to fee structures being introduced as of 1 July: scaled registration fees and compulsory genomic testing of registered bulls. More details are provided on page 6.

### Value of registered Holsteins

As I look back over the previous 10 months at the number of sales conducted by members there is both good and bad news. Unfortunately, many have been dispersals. However, what has been very consistent is the increased returns enjoyed by members for registered cattle compared to all other cattle coming onto the market. Even very recently we have seen strong results for the Panatana and Eagle Ridge dispersal sales, in both cases a reflection of the passion of the breeders to develop generations of outstanding cattle based on registration, classification and herd recording providing valuable information to make informed purchasing decisions.

My bottom-line message to members: maintain the fundamentals of registration, classification and herd recording and you will see a return on your investment.

### Holstein Australia office

Staff have settled into the new office environment at AgriBio, La Trobe University sharing facilities with Jersey Australia, DataGene and NHIA. Initial reactions are very positive as we have significantly improved the work environment for staff and increased the opportunity to collaborate with industry partners.

The bonus for Holstein Australia has been a significant reduction in rental costs to the tune of 40-50% on our previous office.

### Governance

The 2019 AGM will be held at Inverloch, South Gippsland, on Wednesday 18 September followed by the Holstein Australia Online Showcase Sale and Annual Awards Dinner. I encourage members to put this date in their diaries if they plan to attend.

The Board and BDCC positions will also be announced at the AGM, with the call for nominations taking place on 29 July.

David Johnston will be retiring from the Board after 12 years of continual service and is not eligible to re-nominate. Garry Carpenter's current three-year term expires, and he is eligible for re-nomination.

I encourage members to consider participating in Holstein Australia governance. Whether at Sub-branch or Federal level it is vitally important to have competitive elections.

### Summary

As the environment our members operate within changes, Holstein Australia will continue to adapt and change to meet their needs. The Board and management are continually reviewing our operating structure to ensure the organisation stays relevant to members and the wider industry.

I look forward to meeting members at the various activities I attend as President to discuss how we can shape our future. **HJ**



# Scaled registration fees

As advised in 2018, the introduction of scaled fees was deferred until 1 July 2019, which is fast approaching.

Scaled fees – based on age – are not a new concept for Australia and are common throughout the Holstein world, including the US, Canada and UK. They provide an incentive to register animals at a younger age, helping to maintain the integrity of the pedigree and accuracy of the herd book database. The earlier an animal is registered, the more accurate the information, the less likely the risk of error.

Currently, about 50% of animals are over 12 months of age when registered and many are over 24 months of age.

Members with animals currently close to or over 12 months old are encouraged to apply for registration before 30 June 2019 to ensure your registrations are up to date before scaled fees are implemented. Contact the office to discuss.

## Scaled registration fees, effective 1 July 2019

Age Range	Scaled Fee per Animal
0–12 months	Base Fee
Over 12 months & up to 24 months	Base Fee plus \$11
Over 24 months	Base Fee plus \$22

## Genomic testing bulls

From 1 July there will be significant changes for male registration and the associated fee structure, including the requirement for genomic testing.

There has been considerable discussion at Board level and general discussions amongst members relating to compulsory genomic testing of males to be eligible for registration.

The Board is of the opinion that genomic testing of males and the associated parentage verification will further strengthen the integrity of the Herd Book and provide members and non-members with greater certainty. Additionally, the inclusion of breeding values will have a flow-on impact of increasing the ability to identify the genetic merit of the bull and his progeny.

When submitting males for registration there will be a requirement to provide either a hair or tissue sample for Holstein Australia to organise a genomic test prior to finalising the registration.

There will be a new fee for male registration inclusive of genomic testing, registration and transfer (if required at a later date) at a bundled fee of \$60 +GST.

The new bundled fee for male registration represents a significant saving on the current pricing of each of the individual components and this has been achieved through working with the providers of genomic services.

Further detail on both scaled fees and male registration will be communicated direct to members.

## Awards certificates

From 1 July, Holstein Australia will change the format of issuing awards certificates.

An Awards Summary (without certificates) will be automatically emailed to members on a regular basis and at no cost.

Members who wish to continue to receive hard copies of their Awards Summary and certificates through the mail can 'opt in' for the postal service. This service will incur a 'Printing, postage and handling' fee of \$2.20 per award to a maximum of \$110 for the financial year. Award fees will be charged to member accounts at the end of financial year.

Members can opt in to postal service online (members area) or by phoning the office on 03 9835 7600.

For Excellent and STP awards, the only time a certificate will be printed is when the member has opted for Certificate printing.

# See you at the Winter Fair

The Holstein Australia team is looking forward to catching up with members at the Victorian Winter Fair which will be held at Bendigo on 3-4 July.

Now in its sixth year, the Winter Fair is considered one of Australia's premier shows and the only major show that caters for autumn-calving cows.

Holstein Australia is pleased to sponsor the event, which has gained a reputation for attracting quality animals and exemplary judges as well as nurturing young Holstein enthusiasts.

This year's judge is Matt Templeton (View Fort, Tarwin, Vic), pictured, with assistant judge, Jo Holloway (Jolloway, Lockington, Vic).

A new youth award is being introduced this year to encourage more young people to enter the junior judging competition. A point system will be applied across all youth judging and showmanship classes,



with the winner receiving a clipping crush donated by Belrue Farms.

Clare Modra said the initiative was designed by the organising committee to help young people understand what makes a good cow, and how conformation affects her success in the herd, in terms of production, reproduction and workability.

DataGene will again be presenting an award for the Top BPI Holstein at the Fair.

Entries close 9 June.

## Judging schedule: Victorian Winter Fair, 2019

Tuesday 2 July, 12pm: Junior Judging Competition

Wednesday 3 July, 10am: Dry Heifer Classes.

Thursday 4 July, In Milk Classes: 10am Intermediate Section; 1.30pm - Senior Section



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# AGM in glorious Gippsland

**H**olstein Australia is heading to Inverloch for our Annual General Meeting and National Awards Night on Wednesday 18 September at the RACV Inverloch Resort near Cape Paterson.

Gippsland is at the heart of Australia's dairy industry, producing more than 1.9 billion litres of milk a year, about 22% of national milk output.

The AGM program has been designed as a relaxing opportunity to spend time with other Holstein enthusiasts, with the AGM on Wednesday morning followed by the Holstein Australia Online Showcase Sale, held in conjunction with Dairy Livestock Services and Elite Livestock Auctions (see below article).

There is an option of a half day tour of this popular region on the Wednesday morning, returning in time for the sale.

The much anticipated Annual Awards Night will be held on Wednesday evening, hosted by South Gippsland Sub-branch.

A tour on Thursday will venture slightly further afield and will include a visit to a local winery and lunch as well as the opportunity for delegates to stretch their legs should they so desire.

Preferential rates are available to members at RACV Inverloch Resort when booking through Holstein Australia (please do not book direct). More information is available on the Holstein Australia website or by calling the office on 03 9835 7600. **HJ**



## Diary Details:

### TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER

10am – 5pm	Strategic Directions Committee meeting
7.00pm	Welcome dinner

### WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

9am – 1pm	Optional Inverloch & surrounds tour
10am – 12pm	Holstein Australia AGM
1.30pm – 3.30pm	Holstein Australia Online Showcase Sale
6.00pm	Pre-dinner drinks
7.00pm	HA Annual Awards Night

### THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

9am – 4pm:	Gippsland region tour
7.00pm:	Farewell gathering

Inverloch, a picturesque seaside village within a short drive of Phillip Island, offers a range of water-based activities, pristine beaches and funky cafes.

Diving, kite surfing, boating, fishing, snorkelling, surfing and swimming are all possible from Inverloch. If you prefer a more tranquil approach, explore the rock pools or stroll along the beach.

Soak up the laidback seaside village vibe with exceptional coffee shops, restaurants and boutique shops. Bass Coast and Gippsland's local produce is showcased at regular markets.

Inverloch is famous for its many dinosaur fossil discoveries. Try your luck with a stroll along the beach at low tide and keep your eyes peeled for dinosaur footprints.

## Online Showcase Sale entries open

Vendor entries are now open for The Holstein Australia Online Showcase Sale, which will take place after the Association's Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 18 September at the RACV Inverloch Resort in Gippsland.

Featuring elite Australian-bred Holstein genetics, the 2019 Holstein Australia Online Showcase Sale will be broadcast live via the Internet, with full video, imagery and sound. DLS and Elite Livestock Auctions will run the auction on behalf of Holstein Australia. Buyers and sellers can bid or view auctions from the comfort of their home or office in real-time using a computer, tablet or smart phone.

Animals will be videoed prior to sale and do not need to be

transported to the sale venue. Buyers will be able to participate in the auction online via computer, tablet or phone wherever they are located.

While the cost of providing video footage and photograph will be the vendor's responsibility, due to the online nature of the sale it is anticipated that vendor costs will be considerably lower than those associated with a traditional sale held at a selling centre.

To enter animals in the sale, complete the Vendor Entry Form available on the Holstein Australia website. Completed forms must be returned to the Holstein Australia office by Friday 28 June.

*More information: [enquiry@holstein.com.au](mailto:enquiry@holstein.com.au) or phone (03) 9835 7600.*

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# Big win for Tomargo Recluse in Sydney

BY OLIVIA CALVER\*

Steve Chesworth from Dubbo said it was an overwhelming shock when their cow, Tomargo Recluse Stanley Starbaby, was named the senior champion female in the Holstein judging at Sydney Royal Show.

"It was a little surreal, we've been exhibiting Holsteins at Sydney since 1985 and she was the first broad ribbon we've ever won," Mr Chesworth said.

"Although we thought Starbaby was pretty special, we're always cautious because we've never been able to bring it home before." Judge Marcus Young from Ridgely, Tasmania, said the Chesworths' cow was one he had had his eye on all day.

"She had that lovely high, wide rear udder, tremendous qualities and an overall bloom through the udder," Mr Young said.

Mr Chesworth said they had an anxious lead up to the competition with Stanley Starbaby injuring her udder on the way down to the show. "We were fairly concerned about her but now she's home she looking perfect," Mr Chesworth said.

The injury didn't affect the judging on the day, with Starbaby also winning best senior udder.

The champion's family had been in the Chesworths' stud since the herd was started in 1970 and she traces back to a cow his father bought from his uncle.

The stud is still a family affair, with Steve and his wife Erika running 950 milking Holsteins with their son Duncan and his wife, Danielle; their youngest, Campbell also helping out.

Their daughter Emma and her husband, Jim, manage the family's on-farm milk processing factory that produces their milk brand, Little Big Dairy Co.

Tomargo Recluse also had the honourable mention in the intermediate section for their 2½-3 year old cow, Tomargo Recluse Solomon Apricot.



Champion cow: Tomargo Recluse Stanley Starbaby with The Chesworth family: Campbell, Duncan, Steve and Erika, with Nate in front.



Best Udder (and Champion) cow, Tomargo Recluse Stanley Starbaby, with Col Walsh, Steve Chesworth and Marcus Young.

"That was a really unexpected start to the day and that would have been enough," Mr Chesworth said.

The Walshs from Jaspers Brush dominated much of the rest of the competition.

Their stud, Waljasper, took out champion intermediate female.

Justin Walsh said the cow, Waljasper Sid Suzette, had a impressive background; her dam was named supreme champion at Sydney in 2016 and 2017.

Sid Suzette also saw her own success as a heifer, named junior champion at the NSW State Show and winning the All Australian junior yearling in 2017.

Mr Walsh said they were excited she had reached her potential as a milking cow.

The reserve senior champion also went to Waljasper, with Waljasper Frosty Lola, and the stud received an honourable mention for their heifer, Waljasper King Doc Suzette.

The Walshs' success in the breed continued with a heifer from another of the family's studs, Walstar, named junior champion.

*\* Reprinted with permission from The Land newspaper*

## Royal Easter Show – Holstein Results 2019

**Judge, Marcus Young, Tasmania**

**Junior Champion Female:** Brad & Jess Gavenlock Tallygaroopna Vic, Cherrylock Chassitys Innocence-IMP-ET; **Reserve:** J E Walsh & P & L Duncan Jaspers Brush NSW, Lightning Ridge Awesome Ribbon-RDC; **Honourable Mention:** C P & S J Walsh Jaspers Brush NSW, Waljasper King Doc Suzette.

**Best Intermediate Udder:** C P & S J Walsh Jaspers Brush NSW, Waljasper Sid Suzette-ET.

**Intermediate Champion Female:** C P & S J Walsh Jaspers Brush NSW, Waljasper Sid Suzette-ET; **Reserve:** Cameron Yarnold Killawarra Via Wingham, Arrallik Windbrook Meg-ET; **Honourable Mention:** S D & E G Chesworth Dubbo NSW, Tomargo Recluse Solomon Apricot.

**Best Senior Udder:** S D & E G Chesworth Dubbo, Tomargo Recluse Stanley Starbaby.

**Senior Champion Female:** S D & E G Chesworth Dubbo NSW, Tomargo Recluse Stanley Starbaby; **Reserve:** C P & S J Walsh Jaspers Brush NSW, Waljasper Frosty Lola; **Honourable Mention:** C & T Whatman & Family Burrawang NSW, Sunnyview Mandate Waterlily.

**Most Successful Holstein Breeder:** C P & S J Walsh Jaspers Brush NSW.

**Most Successful Holstein Exhibitor:** S D & E G Chesworth Dubbo NSW.



## Toowoomba Show, 29 March

**Senior Champion Holstein Friesian Cow:** Red Boots Luckystar Butterkorn, BP CA & FB Hayden, Pilton, Qld; **Reserve:** Ardylbar Damion Flower, AD & SL Barron - AD & SL Barron, Cambooya, Qld; **Honourable Mention:** Leader Beemer Satin, R & J Lindsay, Warwick, Qld.

**Most Successful Exhibitor - Holstein Friesian:** R & J Lindsay, Warwick, Qld.

**Supreme Udder Cow:** Ardylbar Damion Flower, AD & SL Barron, Cambooya, Qld.

**Champion Junior Holstein Friesian Heifer:** Ardylbar Classy Flora, AD & SL Barron, Cambooya, Qld. **Reserve:** Redboots Dashawn Tessie, BP CA & FB Hayden, Pilton, Qld.

LEFT: The Trevor Schoorl Memorial Junior Champion Heifer with Wayne Bradshaw, Jefe Australia managing director and RASQ vice-president; owner Waylon Barron and Genevieve Schoorl.

## Rochester Holstein feature, 23 February

### Great Northern Rochester Show

**Judge:** Robin White, Luccombe Holsteins Finley, NSW

**Senior Champion Cow:** Clydebanks Braxton Leonie, Clydebanks Holsteins, Timmering, Victoria;

**Reserve:** Mitch Chipper Beauty - Mitch Holsteins & TPM, Banawm, Victoria.

**Supreme Udder** Clydebanks Braxton Leonie - Clydebanks Holsteins, Timmering, Victoria.

**Most Successful Exhibitor:** Hightop Holsteins, Congupna, Victoria.

**Most Successful Breeder:** Clydebanks Holsteins, Timmering, Victoria.



Fancy Dress Class Winner - Fletcher (Where's Wally) Robinson with Class Sponsor April Anderson Glynyari Holsteins.

Champion Cow - Clydebanks Braxton Leonie Brooke Sommerville on halter, Judge Robin White and Reserve Champion Cow Mitch - Chipper Beauty Kim Mitch on Halter.

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## Mount Pleasant Fair, SA

BY COURTNEY AFFORD, HOLLOW BROOK, SA

The quality of exhibits at this year's Mount Pleasant Fair on 16 March was exceptional and a credit to the exhibitors. The number of entries was lower than previous years, reflecting the tough industry conditions.

There were many entries in the junior section of the show, with some classes giving judge Gavin Newman (Newbold Holsteins, Meadows, SA) a hard time placing.

All Australian class honours went to Billabong Doorman Kitty, entered by Courtney Afford.

The Junior broad ribbons were awarded to a pair of 18-month old heifers who Gavin found hard to split in their age class: Junior Champion honours went to the 'very stylish and refined' Eclipse Avalanche Delight-Red, exhibited by Robsvue Holsteins, Myponga, backing up her Reserve Junior Champion win at IDW in the Red Holstein show. Reserve Junior Champion went to the 'correct and powerful' Hollow Brook Solomon Sandy, exhibited by Courtney Afford, Woods Point.

Though intermediate numbers were down, there were two strong classes in the Senior 2 and Senior 3 classes. Intermediate and Reserve Intermediate Champion went to the pair of Senior 3 cows, with Blackwood Park Brady Sonny 7521 VG87, exhibited by the Altmann Family, taking out top honours, followed by Glenunga Jordan Glamour-ET VG85, from Glenunga Proprietors, Moculta. Glamour's full sister, Glenunga Jordan Glenna EX-92 was a previous show champion for many years at Mount Pleasant.

The senior crown was hotly contested, with Gavin deliberating over two cows for the title: the Altmann family's winning 5-year-old Blackwood Park Impression Vicky 7277 VG88, and the Koch family's winning mature cow Glenunga Breakout Folly VG87. Breakout Folly eventually prevailed, as well as being awarded Best Udder of Show.

Overall it was a fantastic show, and we thank all exhibitors and the organising committee for all the effort they continue to put in to keep this show going.



Senior Champion Glenunga Breakout Folly.

## WA Autumn Dairy Fair

WA Autumn Dairy Fair is held every year in conjunction with the annual Harvey Ag Show. This year, the show on 27 April celebrated its 100th Anniversary.

Judge, Daniel Bacon, Tennyson, Victoria, awarded the Senior & Grand Champion Cow to Acero Palula, EX-93-3E, exhibited by the Fry Family, Katandra Park, Brunswick.



Senior & Grand Champion Cow: Acero Palula, EX-93-3E, exhibited by the Fry Family, Katandra Park, Brunswick (pictured with judge Daniel Bacon & handler Lachlan Fry).



Junior Champion: Angelis Morning Ladylike, exhibited by the Angi Family, Yarloop (pictured with Tony Angi & daughter Gabriella).



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*More than 230 people attended Herd '19 held in Bendigo in March. Held every two years, the Herd conferences have become a 'must attend' event for people involved at all levels in herd improvement. The program features leading scientists and farmers from around the world, but equally important is the spirit of learning and collaboration among the attendees who may not otherwise meet in person very often.*

*Among this year's farmer speakers was Holstein Australia member Craig Lister (Calister, Northern Victoria), who talked*

*about his experiences in developing a small, commercial herd into one of the top 10 in Australia based on Balanced Performance Index (PBI).*

*In the following pages, we report on some of the keynote speakers: Dr Ben Hayes with insights into new genetic technologies on the horizon, Brian Albertoni on the role of genetics in addressing global challenges and Dr John Penry offering four options for mastitis management using less antibiotics.*

# Genetics to help solve global dairy challenges: US expert

**G**enetics can help the dairy industry overcome social, environmental and financial challenges, a global expert told a recent herd improvement conference.

It's just a matter of embracing change.

World Wide Sires marketing manager, genetic consultant and mating specialist, Brian Albertoni, told Herd '19 in Bendigo that genetics provided important responses to threats to the future of dairy such as concern about carbon emissions, animal welfare, competition from alternative "milk" beverages as well as a need to feed a growing global population and on-farm profitability.

"Our population is exploding, by 2050 there will be 10 billion mouths to feed," he said. "That's huge growth and as the growth comes, wealth improves, so those 10 billion people want a glass of milk a hamburger. It means we have to produce 56 per cent more food than we do today. It's scary and also a little exciting."

He said since genomics was first available 10 years ago, US milk production per cow increased 12.9% per year. "We used to talk about 80:20 rule, 80% of production increases come from management and 20% genetics," Brian said. "Today, it's the 70:30 rule, where 30% of the production increase is coming from genetics. It's very exciting times for our industry."

Outside of production, the environmental impact of dairying often comes into question, especially carbon emissions from agriculture. But genetics can play a role in explaining to consumers, and those



Genetics has a role in addressing global dairy challenges according to Brian Albertoni from World Wide Sires in the US.

disconnected from agriculture, how the industry is tackling this concern, Brian said.

"The truth is we are focusing on genetic efficiency, especially through feed efficiency and trying to be more sustainable," he said. "(From the perspective) of a genetic company, I've never seen such focus on bringing cow size down, some people don't like it, but it's the way it needs to be. We need to focus on bringing cow size down to be more efficient and sustainable."

## Animal welfare

Genetics can also help overcome negative perceptions about animal welfare. For example, breeding for improved fertility combined with technologies to automate heat detection will reduce the industry's use of synchronisation programs.

Brian predicted genetic selection for wellness traits would "skyrocket".

"As I travel around the world, there's more and more people wanting genetics to make healthier animals, so they don't have to use antibiotics," he said.

He also used the example of polled genes to avoid dehorning, as a way genetics could help the public understand the desire for healthier cows with improved welfare management.

Selecting genetic wellness traits would also help save money on farm through limiting issues such as mastitis and lameness while also breeding cows which live longer.

## Benefits for consumers

Outside the cow itself, Brian said genetics could help improve milk and provide benefits for consumers. He said this would help the industry as it faces increasing market pressure from alternative beverages.

"From a genetics company we need to focus on milk that tastes better," he said. "That's more digestible and higher quality overall. If there's a genetic component, we are going to try and adopt that."

A2 milk is an example of this.

In 2016 the consumption of plant-based milk alternatives tripled in the US and for the decade prior to this there had been a 25 per cent decrease in milk consumption per person. "How did we get so blind-sided?" Brian challenged the conference.

*Continued next page*

# VH SPARKY

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Continued from previous page

"We must work together to promote the benefits of milk," he said.

Genetics could also play a role in helping dairy farmers across the world manage price volatility, cut costs and run profitable businesses but he said artificial insemination companies must help farmers adapt to this new business environment as well as technology. "Adapt to thrive, not just survive," he said.

"As an AI company we must focus on all our genetic solutions, ramp-them-up, and we must be focused on the profitability of farms," he said.

Profitability will go "far beyond genetics". Brian said there was a broader role AI companies could play on farm, this included helping farmers access technologies as well as manage and interpret data, e.g. feeding, reproduction and genetics.

He urged farmers to embrace genomic testing to identify their superior genetics which should become the replacements for the herd. This strategy could be combined with perhaps with beef on the lower genetic merit animals to supplement income.

"Whatever you do, you must adapt to technology quickly, its moving forward fast," he said.

Brian challenged the audience to also think about the genetics of animals before calving.

"We need to focus on genetics that help us raise healthy calves that resist pneumonia, that resist scours and can help farmers be more profitable," he said. "As a bonus it is great for public relations."

On the horizon, there's plenty of opportunity for genetics as well, for example, new genetic traits for an earlier first calving and earlier maturation.

"When you realise it costs \$2.50/day to raise a heifer, if you could just move that calving date 10 days forward, that's a lot of money, if you are milking 500 cows, 100 cows or a thousand cows, Brian Albertoni said.

He also listed improvements in feed efficiency, research into heat stress and persistency – such as looking at peak versus late lactation production and trying to find genetics that provide a steadier curve.

"There are so many genetic opportunities we have," he said. **HJ**

## Lifting herd genetic merit

**Craig Lister (Calister, Northern Victoria) shared with delegates his experiences in building the genetic merit of his herd to one of the top in Australia, based on Balanced Performance Index (BPI). Amelia Pepe\* reports.**

**G**enomic testing has boosted the genetic merit of a Calivil farmer's herd from below national average to top 10 in the country.

Dairy farmer Craig Lister, who grew up on a farm of 120 cows, said it was a typical operation with low technology and long hours.

"My parents weren't overly into breeding, as long as the cow was mainly black with white legs and didn't kick in the dairy, it was a good cow," Craig said.

He said it was not that they didn't care about the herd, they simply did not have the time.

Craig's interest in genetics sparked from a young age while working alongside his pet cow.

"I was rearing calves from a young age, and my pet cow was humble but not much to look at," he said. "But regardless of what we believed, she thought she was Holstein royalty."

He said the cow lived up to her high ideals of herself. "She ended up averaging eight lactations with a PI (production index) of 116 and bred three outstanding daughters who continued her legacy," he said.

So when Craig attended university to study business, he began to question what impact it would have on their operation if they produced an entire outstanding herd.

"It is a much better way to farm – if you are putting the effort into growing the crops and the pastures, why not have cows that worked along with you instead of working against you," he said.

When Craig joined the family business in 2003 he bought a well-regarded Holstein herd, but at the time, the combined genetic merit was below national average.

From 2003, the business' genetic merit has increased from below national average to top 10 in the country.

The steps Craig took to get his herd where he wanted it to be were gradual.

"I was share farming during the millennium drought so I had to come up with a cost effective plan that didn't require much extra investment to achieve my goal," he said.

"Each year when it came to selecting bulls, I selected elite BPI (Balanced Performance Index) bulls that were consistent with my breeding goal."

He divided his cows in the herd into the cows he thought could meet the breeding goal and those that were too far away.

"About 45% were marked not to be used for Holstein breeding," Craig said.

Over time, the business was able to breed enough replacements from half of the Holstein herd that they continued to work with to then take over the entire herd.

The Listers' operation was selected for the 10,000 cow project and progressed to Ginfo, Australia's national reference herd for dairy genetics.

"I started testing our own heifers in 2011 and then in 2014 onwards, all cows had been genomically tested."

He said farmers didn't need a high level to start to improve their herd, they just needed clear and concise goals.

*\* Reprinted from The Weekly Times with permission*



**Craig Lister used high BPI bulls to build the genetic merit of his dairy herd.**

# One herd test can help cut antibiotic use on-farm

A single herd-test within 80 days before drying-off cows can guide targeted part-herd (selective) antibiotic dry cow treatment use on-farm.

That was the message from Dr John Penry, who spoke to the Herd '19 conference in Bendigo about ways dairy farmers can reduce the use of antibiotics on-farm.

John, the newly appointed Dairy Australia manager of technical and innovation, outlined four management methods for dairy farmers to replace blanket dry cow therapy which involves treating the entire herd with antibiotics before drying them off to calve.

He said selective or part-herd dry cow treatment was about rethinking how cows get selected for dry cow therapy and this can be determined by a single herd test.

A recent study on 36 commercial dairy farms in New Zealand found one herd test within 80 days of the herd drying-off date had "the equivalent test performance" to make decisions on which cows to treat with dry cow therapy as compared to four measures of cell count which is standard practice in NZ. These measures included the maximum cell count recorded for a cow across four tests within a season or where it was compared to multiple cell count tests periods combined with age and clinical mastitis information.

"Here's the gift to the Australian herd test industry," John said. "If you are trying to convince farmers to herd test and they currently don't herd test, then this is an argument to do that."

"If you are interested in antimicrobial stewardship, interested in moving towards selective dry cow therapy in combination with teat sealant, for example, one herd test within the last 80 days is justifiable and defensible based on robust research undertaken on commercial farms."

According to the New Zealand research, this one herd test can ensure the dairy farm business avoids the time and financial commitment of applying dry cow to the entire herd, by selecting those that



Dr John Penry says a single herd test can help dairy farmers cut antibiotic treatments for mastitis.

the test indicated as having a subclinical mastitis infection.

The World Health Organization and the United Nations have, in recent years, flagged antimicrobial resistance as a priority and threat to human health. Some antibiotics may not be able to be used to treat infections into the future, if bacteria develop the ability to survive in the presence of antibiotics. A 2016 United Kingdom study estimated this could cost \$US10 trillion by 2050.

Animal agriculture has a role to play in antimicrobial stewardship by reducing the amount of antibiotics used.

## Antibiotic use

John told the Herd '19 conference about the Dutch dairy industry's experience, passing legislation in 2012 to reduce the use of antibiotics. This meant dairy farmers could no longer use blanket dry cow therapy.

Compared to 2009 levels of antibiotic use, in 2011 there was a 20% decrease; in 2013 a 50% decrease and in 2015 a 70% decrease. John said these targets were achieved across all animal production sectors in the Netherlands.

"What happens to the bulk milk cell count at a national level? Since 2012 it has dropped. You could argue it could be due to culling more animals, but the trend is still downwards. There was a series of cell count assessments done on 280 herds for cell count changes over multiple months to see if (they) became infected. It showed the new infection rate appeared to be going down."

Other suggestions for reducing antibiotic use on farm include using teat sealant in pre-calving heifers. John said this was trialled extensively in New Zealand during the early 2000s as most new clinical infections in heifers occurred in the first 30 days in milk in pasture-based systems.

"Since that time, the application of this treatment to the NZ heifer population has increased and it is estimated that approximately 45% of heifers may receive this treatment around one month prior to calving – based on a large Waikato veterinary service database," he said.

"The rationale behind this treatment is that the presence of the teat-sealant compound in the developing teat cistern, prevents the establishment of new mastitis infections in the weeks immediately prior to first calving."

A 2006 New Zealand study found the use of teat-sealants in pre-calving heifers reduced both the incidence of clinical mastitis in early lactation by 70% as well as the rate of new intermammary infection due to *Strep uberis* by the same amount.

John stressed to the Herd '19 crowd that most pre-calving teat sealing in heifers was done by trained animal technicians "where diligent application of disinfection is paramount".

On-farm milk culture systems was also flagged as a tool to manage mastitis on farm.

John said this meant that farmers could base the treatment on the likely cause of infection. He referred to an extensive 2011 survey where 23% of clinical mastitis milk samples had recorded a 'no-growth' culture result. This aligned with overseas studies which averaged about 30-35% prevalence of no growth in equivalent milk samples. Therefore, they didn't need to be treated with antibiotics.

"With no growth sample results, one assumption is that the cow's immune

*Continued next page*



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system has successfully mounted a response such that while the inflammatory effects of the infection remain present, the bacteria responsible have been cleared," John said.

In another study, half the cows with mild or moderate clinical mastitis were not treated for the first 24 hours following detection as they awaited the results of an on-farm milk culture. No antibiotic treatment was administered to those which recorded a no growth or

gram-negative bacteria. John said only positive culture results were treated intramammarily.

The rest of the cows in this study received clinical mastitis treatment regardless of the culture outcome.

Those treated following on-farm milk cultures had reduced withhold days and there was no statistical difference in days to clinical cure, recurrence of clinical mastitis, linear somatic cell count, daily milk production or risk of culling.

Finally, using internal teat seal by itself

without dry cow therapy is another way to reduce antibiotic use if individual cell count data indicates no signs of subclinical infection. John said a 2013 meta-analysis showed using internal teat sealant by itself or in combination with dry cow therapy reduced the risk of new intramammary infections after calving by 25%.

When cows treated with internal teat sealant were compared to those with no treatment, the use of the teat sealant reduced new intramammary infection by 73%.

HJ



Above: Donna Edge (Wyena Holsteins, Western Districts), Garry Carpenter (Garerley, Tasmania) and David Johnston (Segenhoe Park, Western Districts).

Below: Lynette Greenwood (Alnor Partners, Western Districts) with Donal Blackwell.



Above: Sam Simpson (Craiglands, Western Districts), with Jersey breeder Anthea Day (Araluen Park, Gippsland).

Below: Ross Joblin, DataGene, and Trevor Henry (Wilara, East Gippsland).

Photographs: Sophie Baldwin



# Younger bulls deliver gains thanks to genomics

**G**enomics has led dairy farmers and breeding companies to use younger sires, contributing to the almost doubling of genetic gain in the past nine years.

This was one of the findings University of Queensland Professor Ben Hayes presented as part of a genomic 'score card', comparing results with predictions.

Since the introduction of genomic Australian Breeding Values (ABVgs) the average age of both Holstein and Jersey artificial insemination bulls used by dairy farmers to breed their cows had dropped from 7.5 years to 4.5 years.

The most dramatic drop was the age of sires used to breed the next generation of AI bulls. This reduced from 7.5 years to 2-3 years in Holsteins and 3-4 years in Jerseys.

Ben said this demonstrated AI companies were intensively selecting sires of sons using genomic breeding values. It also closed the breeding generation gap, an important factor for increasing the rate of genetic gain for dairy farmers, which is on an upward trajectory due to many changes in breeding.

In a paper he co-authored with Gert Nieuwhof from Agriculture Victoria Research Centre for AgriBioscience in Melbourne as well as DataGene, Ben said the greatest gains from genomic selection were for traits that were previously difficult to select for, such as fertility.

"With genomics we should have a much wider range of animals with reliable breeding traits to select, so traits like fertility should go up faster rate than overall index," he said.

Following the launch of ABV(g)s in 2010, the trend for fertility in Holsteins and Jerseys increased significantly. Large-scale projects were already in place to focus on declining Holstein fertility, including a move by the dairy industry to place more weight on fertility in its Balanced Performance Index.

Due to this multi-pronged approach to tackling fertility decline, Ben said genomics could not claim all the fertility gains, but it contributed to it.



University of Queensland's Professor Ben Hayes.

## Genomic advances

Ben discussed future breeding technologies, including Invitro Breeding (IVB), which is being trialled at the University of California. He said IVB was a tool in the pipeline and it would shake-up traditional perceptions of breeding.

"What they are proposing is to skip, at least for a few generations, making cows and bulls entirely," he said.

Ben said the concept would begin with an IVF program to produce embryos but instead of implanting these to produce calves, they are genotyped to discover the best ones. Cells from these are differentiated into both sperm and eggs. They are then run through another round of selection by genotyping to produce genomic breeding values, and then fertilise the eggs with the sperm you have made and produce more embryos. At that stage you either implant the embryos (to produce calves) or keep going through this cycle. The generation interval is about 3-4 months.

Ben said his colleagues at the University of California in the US were "on the cusp of making this work".

## Performance records

Maintaining and building a reference-set of on-farm data was essential to the success of this new technology, he stressed. He said it would ensure animal performance could keep pace

with the generation gains from the new technology. Without this, the reliability of breeding values would erode, which could happen "alarmingly quickly". Ben said "an awful lot" of data would need to keep coming into the system.

Phenotypes – the performance records of a trait – maintain the reliability of genomic predictions. Examples of phenotypes include cow production or fertility records. DataGene's Ginfo Project collects farm records to contribute to the reliability of Australian genomic breeding values, but all farms that herd record help maintain a strong database. "Just getting DNA information on animals, and lots of animals, doesn't get you anywhere. You need those really good trait records, large and continually updated reference populations," Ben said.

Health traits, such as mastitis resistance, will be vital in future breeding technological developments.

"If you going to run something like this, turnover five or six generations without seeing a cow, we have to make really sure we have got really good genomic breeding values for not just production but also health traits," Ben said. "The last thing you want to do is crank through the cycles, with your health traits deteriorating as you go. You need really good genomic breeding values across a range of traits."

Ben said this type of technology – that allowed a fast advancement in generation intervals – could also assist with developing new lines of cattle. For example, improving the heat tolerance. "You could (develop) highly heat-tolerant cows by cranking through multiple cycles and selecting hard on the heat tolerance ABV(g)," he said.

Another future technology example included, a hand-held 'whole genome sequencer'. Resembling a USB stick which would be plugged into a computer, Ben said it's used in hospitals and produces a sequence "really quickly" for patients who are admitted with a bacterial infection. It checks, on-the-spot, if the bacteria is resistant to antibiotics.

Ben's group is developing this technology, which will eventually enable 'crush-side' genotyping of cattle. DNA from an ear punch or tail-hair is fed into the genome sequencer and "within minutes" it would provide a genotype and then genomic breeding values.

HJ



# First Australian European Young Breeders School Team announced

**H**olstein Australia, Jersey Australia and the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria have announced the first ever Australian team to compete at the European Young Breeders School, to be held in Battice, Belgium, in August.

The team members, selected after a rigorous application and interview process, come from five dairying regions across three states and represent a number of dairy breeds.

The team members are:

- Brady Hore, Leitchville, Victoria
- Julia Paulger, Kenilworth, Queensland
- Ricky Nelson, Irrewillipe, Victoria
- Sam Hall, Australind, Western Australia
- Zoe Hayes, Girgarre, Victoria.

The team reserve is Alexzander Crawford from Daltons Bridge, Victoria.

Team leader, Justin Johnston of Glomar Holsteins, said this would be the twentieth year the European Young Breeders School has taken place. "It has become the international reference point for training and show preparation, with many countries entering teams year-on-year. It will be a great learning experience for our team members, and a real opportunity to showcase the talent of Australian dairy youth on the world stage."

The team is being supported by a number of Australian enterprises and industry bodies including Dick Smith, ST Genetics, Dairy Australia, Genetics Australia, Smyth Seeds and Gippsland Dairy Youth.

Graeme Gillan, Holstein Australia CEO, says: "Full marks to Justin for getting this project up and running. The selection panel has put together what I think is a strong cross-breed team from a number of different dairy regions throughout Australia. The experience will enable them to really hone their skills, already at a high level, and benchmark themselves against some of the best young dairy men and women from Europe, the UK and Canada."

Paul Guerra, Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria CEO, says: "The Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria are proud to support

the inaugural Australian youth delegation to the European Young Breeders School. This is a fantastic initiative that offers to provide a lasting impression on some of the dairy community's emerging leaders. We are proud to support the development of youth and partner with Holstein Australia and Jersey Australia to deliver this opportunity. We wish all of the individuals well on their journey to Europe and look forward to hearing about their experience when they return."

The European Young Breeders School is an annual five-day event run by the Association Wallonne de l'Elevage (AWE). It involves hands-on workshops including bedding, showmanship & clipping, as well as classroom-based sessions such as marketing and herd promotion. After three days of workshops and practice, participants put their skills to the test in stock judging, showmanship and calf classes.

Following the European Young Breeders School, the Australian team will travel through Holland on an educational tour visiting several farms, Alta Genetics and Lely in what is regarded as one of the world's most productive dairy regions.

**Brady Hore, Leitchville, Victoria**

"It's a great opportunity to gain an insight into farming and showing of cows in Europe, something that I am really passionate about."



*"It will be a great learning experience for our team members, and a real opportunity to showcase the talent of Australian dairy youth on the world stage"*

– Team leader, Justin Johnston

**Julia Paulger, Kenilworth, Queensland**

It's an incredible opportunity to be selected to represent Australia at the European Young Breeders School. It's a great platform to showcase the skills and knowledge we have developed and to show our international friends that Australian Youth have the ability to stand up on the world stage. It's also a wonderful opportunity to expand our knowledge and be exposed to other farming situations and technologies. It will be an eye-opening experience and one I hope to gain further knowledge or order to apply similar practices and technologies in own farming situation and within the Australian Dairy Industry. I am very proud to represent Australia and hope my fellows peers and I can do our country proud.



**Ricky Nelson, Irrewillipe, Victoria**

"A trip of a life time is a common statement, but a trip to represent your breed society and your industry is a true trip of a life time. I'm honoured to have been selected and am eager to experience and learn with various youth from across the globe."



**Sam Hall, Australind, Western Australia**

"What an honour it is to be able to represent my country in the 2019 European Young Breeders School. It means the world to me to be able to take part and is such a prestigious opportunity. I plan to bring back new skills and insight into Europe's dairy industry that I can share with like-minded individuals back home."



**Zoe Hayes, Girgarre, Victoria**

"I am extremely honoured to be selected to represent Australia at the European Young Breeders School. It will be an amazing opportunity to gain further knowledge of the dairy industry and showing cattle with like-minded people, something I'm very passionate about."



HJ

# Paringa the home of champions...



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SHE SELLS!  
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# Herd Genetic Stocktake Report

– New tool to speed up genetic improvement –

– Free to Holstein Australia members\* –

See at glance

- ▶ Your herd's BPI and performance
- ▶ Annual production per cow
- ▶ Genetic trait performance and consistency
- ▶ Herd lactation financial return
- ▶ ABV herd impact.

*To order your Herd Genetic Stocktake*

*contact Rohan Butler on 0428 135 361, email: [rbutler@holstein.com.au](mailto:rbutler@holstein.com.au)*



## Herd Genetic Stocktake Report

– helping you  
improve  
your herd

## Holstein Australia

– helping you  
maximise your  
herd asset

\* Reports are available to members who have enough herd recording data after the December and April proof runs and is sent by email.

# Herd Genetic Stocktake: a new report for HA members

**H**olstein Australia has launched the Herd Genetic Stocktake report, a new free service available to members who have sufficient herd recording data. The report provides an overview of an individual herd's genetic profile.

Members with the required amount of data will receive two herd reports a year, after DataGene's April and December ABV releases. The report will enable members to identify strengths and weaknesses in their breeding programs and provides an estimate of the dollar value of improving genetics within their herd.

Reports are compiled using the member's herd recording and pedigree data and Australian Breeding Values provided by DataGene. Using this data, Holstein Australia calculates the improvement in on-farm measures when individual traits are improved.

## Maximising herd value

The Herd Genetic Stocktake is all about helping Holstein Australia members to maximise their herd asset.

The difference in performance and financial return of the top and bottom 20% of each herd is clearly presented, as is the likely financial impact of increasing the performance of the bottom 20% to the herd average.

Russ McMillan, Bronte Park Holsteins, Northern Victoria, said: "The 20% breakout provides a benchmark when reviewing individual animal's genetic merit relative to



Russ McMillan, Bronte Park Holsteins says Herd Genetic Stocktake presents his herd's information in format that is really easy to digest at-a-glance.  
*Photographs: DataGene*

my own herd. While we've been using this kind of data for a long while, the genetic stocktake presents it in a really easy to digest and at-a-glance manner."

## Impact of genes on performance

Have you ever wondered about the real relationship between genetic merit and herd performance? Each report breaks down the specific herd impact of a single unit increase in Balanced Performance Index, survival, fertility and somatic cell score Australian Breeding Values (ABVs).

This provides valuable information for bull selection.

Wes Hurrell, Rockwella Farm Holsteins, Yankilla, SA, said: "I like the way the report is individualised to our farm using the BPI that's designed for an Australian grazing production system. The relationship between genetics, actual performance and income also helps identify the need for genomic testing."

Easy identification of positive and negative herd genetic traits, as well as trait consistency, will also assist with choosing bulls that contribute to herd development and profitability.

Holstein Australia CEO, Graeme Gillan, said: "A lot of work has gone into this new member service. Each report highlights key herd test information from an individual member's herd and will assist in making better informed breeding decisions, accelerating genetic improvement and breeding program progress review. The Herd Genetic Stocktake will be an important tool for building stronger, better Holstein herds into the future."

About 450 members will receive Herd Genetic Stocktake reports on a regular basis, with the number expected to grow over the next 12 months.

*If you have received your Herd Genetic Stocktake recently and would like to know more, or would like to find out what you need to do to receive one, contact Rohan Butler, Genetic Services Manager, [rbutler@holstein.com.au](mailto:rbutler@holstein.com.au).*







# Holstein Australia World Holstein Friesian Conference 2020 Tour

Join Holstein Australia for the 15<sup>th</sup> World Holstein Friesian Federation Conference in Montreux followed by a two-week tour taking in some of northern Europe's most beautiful cities and regions.

## **24–28 March 2020**

- World Holstein Friesian Federation 2020 Conference
- Traditional Swiss evening and Gala Dinner
- Farm, cheese and chocolate producer visits
- The EXPO Bulle Swiss National Holstein & Red Holstein Show

## **28 March – 10 April**

- Italy – Lake Como, Verona, Venice
- Austria – The Alps, Tyrol, Salzburg
- Germany – Eagles Nest, Herren and Frau Island, Munich

To find out more or register your interest contact  
Holstein Australia on 03 9865 7600 or  
[enquiry@holstein.com.au](mailto:enquiry@holstein.com.au)  
before 31 July 2019.





# Cows, cheese, chocolate



Switzerland is famous for mountains, Swiss Army knives and, of course, cows, cheese and chocolate, which is why Holstein Australia is planning a member trip to the World Holstein Friesian Federation Conference on the shores of Lake Geneva early next year.

The conference host city of Montreux can lay claim to one of the world's most recognisable songs, Deep Purple's "Smoke on the Water", which was inspired by a fire that engulfed Montreux Casino in 1971, since rebuilt and now the venue for the Conference's evening events.

Amid the attractions of Montreux, however, it is the Holstein cow that will stand at the centre of Conference proceedings, with a focus on the present-day status and future of the world's foremost dairy breed.

Included within the Conference program are farm, chocolate and cheese producer visits, the Gala dinner and a traditional Swiss evening with Holstein breeders from around the world.

On the final day of the Conference we will take in EXPO Bulle, the Swiss National Holstein and Red Holstein Show which showcases the best in Holstein breeding from throughout the region.

Following the Conference, Holstein Australia members will travel through Italy, Austria and Germany, taking in Lake Como; Verona, the setting for Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'; Venice; the Austrian and Bavarian Alps; Salzburg; Tyrol, and; Munich.

While relaxation and seeing the sights will be the main emphasis, a visit is also being arranged to one of Europe's most modern dairy farms hosted by a leading homeopathic vet and dairy farmer.

In the words of the Conference organisers, we look forward to you joining us in Montreux, not to the strains of 'Smoke on the Water', but instead to a rousing chorus of 'Holstein, Simply the Best'!

**For further information on the Holstein Australia member trip to the World Holstein Friesian Federation Conference call 03 9835 7600 or email [enquiry@holstein.com.au](mailto:enquiry@holstein.com.au)**

Please note the final itinerary is subject to confirmation



# Celebrating 40 years of Holstein happiness

About 70 people plus copious children gathered at the Lockington Football Club on 22 April to celebrate 40 years since the formation of the North West Victorian Sub-branch of Holstein Australia. The turnout demonstrated that the love of Holsteins endures the passage of time with three generations in attendance from the Anderson, Campi, Dee, Gilmore, Hore, McLean and Somerville families.

The all-day social event included fun activities for the kids and Holstein memorabilia collated by Linda Somerville (Clydebank), including a TV loop of

images from events over the years, such as calf days, field days including plenty of photos of kids who grew up to become well-known personalities in the Holstein community. The only formalities were speeches from the founding president, Geoff Behrens (Nyngan) and current president, Colin Dee (Clydevale).

Thanks to the organising committee, who were all founding members of the subbranch: Richard Anderson (Glynyari), Geoff Behrens (Nyngan), John Prout (Corra Lea), Jeff Harrower (Beltana) and Jim Gilmore (Ingoldale).



Geoff Behrens (first President) and Colin Dee (current President).



Brady and Sophie Gilmore won the egg and spoon race.



Marg and Terry Campi.



Jim and Dot Gilmore.



Dee family.



Ross and Linda Somerville, Danielle and Geoff Horricks.



Hore family.



Georgia and Jade Sieben, Bec Love.



# 2019 ON-FARM COMPETITION



*Semex, in conjunction with Holstein Australia, is pleased to announce the Semex-Holstein Australia On-Farm competition 2019.*

*The competition is aimed at promoting and growing the registered Holstein by attracting and encouraging members to participate without the cost and time constraints of travelling.*

*As the competition continues to grow we are constantly reviewing the processes and implementing changes that will benefit all participants across all sub-branches.*

## COMPETITION DETAILS

Animals entered must be registered Holstein or Grade Animals which have sufficient documented identity to qualify for the Holstein Australia Appendix registry under the current guidelines.

The classes for the competition are

2 Year Old	(born between 1/1/17 to 31/12/17)
3 Year Old	(born between 1/1/16 to 31/12/16)
4 Year Old	(born between 1/1/15 to 31/12/15)
5 Year Old	(born between 1/1/14 to 31/12/14)
Mature	(born on / or before 31/12/13)

- The competition is open to in milk animals only.
- There will be a limit of 10 animals per breeder.
- On the day of the competition animals are not to be fitted or haltered whilst being judged. It is at the judges or appointed sub branch delegate's discretion to reject or penalise any animal they believe to be in conflict of this ruling.
- Each sub-branch will conduct their own competition.
- Semex will then take first and second placegetters in each of the five nominated classes from which Overall Champions and Placegetters will be selected by the Over Judge.

All area and regional judging must be completed by 23rd October 2019. The overjudging is scheduled to commence November 3rd 2019.

**For further details or entry forms contact your local Holstein Australia Sub-Branch  
or Semex Pty Ltd, Ph 03 9743 0344**



# A generational farm in the making

**W**atching the next generation's excitement about their future in dairying is how Garry and Lee Hibberd gauge themselves when they pause to consider the legacy they have created.

Garry carved out his place in the industry off the back of a 12-year share farming position, before buying his first 121.5 hectares at Cooriemungle in Victoria's Western District – just 10 kilometres from the sea along the Great Ocean Road, en route to the 12 Apostles. It was 31 years ago, and he milked 180 head. Lee joined him eight years later.

From there, it has been hard slog and focus on farming and family for the couple – including 13 years milking 630 cows thrice daily, which helped establish Cooriemungle Holsteins' national profile.

## Housing from chilling 'breezes'

The farm now spans 445.5ha, carrying 500 cows that are averaging 10,000 litres with a 3.4% protein and a 3.8% fat percentage, supplying Fonterra Fresh.

In 2006, Garry and Lee moved to house 300 of their herd (60%) in a free-stall barn on a total mixed ration (TMR) so they could sustain production, and improve cow comfort on a property that faces up to 1,270 millimetres of rainfall annually, heightened by bone-chilling winter sea 'breezes'.

Their winter challenges are now managed, and history has shown that the consistent rainfall on this dryland property has been golden for future-proofing.

The housed herd is fed corn and grass silage with eight kilograms of wheat and canola through the dairy. The balance of the herd, which are further through their lactation or close to drying off, continue to graze on the undulating property, which has a clay soil base.

## Cherished animals

All animals are well loved at Cooriemungle – from the dogs and cats sprawled over the lounge to the cows who pause for a pat on the way to the dairy. The calves all



Lee and Garry Hibberd are proud that their dairy farming legacy will be continued by their family in Victoria's Western District. They are pictured with two of their children, Madison, 15, and Cody, 20.

jump up eager for a chat from their clean, hutches snugly sited within an open-faced shed. Chickens scratch contentedly in the yard.

Last year, Cooriemungle reared 500 calves, including replacement heifers, bulls and 150 heifers that were exported.

## Cherished family

Detail, work ethic and ongoing passion has pushed the family forward, but what Garry and Lee savour most about the journey is that most of their six children remain involved at different levels. And will continue the dream.

Garry and Lee's middle son, Cody, 20, works full-time on the farm and their youngest daughter, Madison, 15, will follow her brother into the family operation.

The eldest, Amy, 29, is married to Rory Quinlan, who is Cooriemungle's fodder specialist. Amy still milks four times a week, even though she is hair dressing and has managed her own business. Kate, 26, is a manager at Spec Savers, and paid for her university studies working at the

farm. Tom, 25, is a diesel mechanic who helps out in his spare time; while Molly, 18, is studying for a Bachelor of Science at Churchill University in Gippsland with a focus on plant DNA.

Lee says, "That was the one thing we said to each other when we got married. At the end of the day, neither Garry nor I wish to walk away with a million dollars, because the kids have had to buy us out. We're here to help them take that next step.

"Hopefully they will have the privilege of having some of their little kids want to come home and be the third generation."

## Bulls into AI

This Holstein herd has been bred to be good, with a number of bulls entering AI. North American genetics and farming intelligence have always inspired the Hibberds, who've taken the best of that information and woven it into their operation.

Garry says: "I know cross breeding has become very popular but, for me, if you're going to milk a certain number of cows, you need to get a certain amount of milk



from those cows. I'd rather milk 100 less, and achieve the same total production result. I started with a cross-bred herd, but I went to Holsteins as quickly as I could afford it.

"The second year I started herd testing and AI'ing, and as soon as I got the test results, I immediately started weeding out those crossbreds and replacing them with registered Holsteins," Garry says. "I could usually sell two crossbreds and buy one Holstein, and my production never dropped."

### Building the change

When the acclaimed Charlton Holstein herd dispersed, Garry didn't hesitate. He lined up his crossbreds, and they underwrote a purchase of five Charlton cows.

"People laughed at us when we bought there, because they said those feedlot cows wouldn't know how to eat grass," Garry muses.

"But they have been some of our best foundation cows and they weren't that dear. Two of the heifers I bought that day were giving 50 litres, and we were battling to get 25 litres a day out of the mongrels we had here."

### WWS sire focus

Registered Holsteins and North American genetics mainly sourced through World Wide Sires (WWS) have formed the framework for this herd. Cody and Madison are also breeding their own animals and importing genetics to establish their own cow families.

Cody smiles, "I agree with Dad: if I'm gonna get out of bed at 4.30am I want to go and milk something I like looking at."

Cody points out a Dozer heifer, Cooriemungle Dozer Luna, that goes back to her granddam, Farnear-TBR-BH Google-ET VG87, who was made famous in Australia when her Jedi granddaughter sold for \$251,000 at International Dairy Week in 2017. The Dozer also has two daughters and two sons by Pharo.

Impact sires in recent years include Kingboy, and there will be 100 milking daughters by the middle of 2019. Sires the Hibberds have used include Kingboy sons King Doc and Rambo, in addition to Jedi and Montross. Sires currently in use include sons of Jedi, Pharo, Bubba, Frazzelled and M Boom. Flush sires are Humblenkind and Rolan. Using genomic sons remains a priority.

Garry says: "We went that way as soon as

they came in. It's very rare that we use a bull twice now. We've had a good run out of genomics."

### Sustained genetic progress

"We use the best bulls we can get all the time. Bulls that are balanced across the board for conformation, production fertility, and health traits.

"We don't join until cows have been in 70 days or more. Before that they are milking too hard, and we're wasting our time," Garry says.

### Understudies – for now

For the time being, Cody and Madison are continuing to hone their skills from a safe place in understudy roles to their parents. Lee says she is patiently looking forward to checking out some far-away destinations and taking more time to "smell the coffee" in the future.

"The whole wish was that we were starting a potential legacy, and Cody and Madison look like they are going to take that over at the moment.

"It will be up to them what they want to move it to. They just have just have to fund our travels when we do take that step back," Lee smiles.

HJ





## Top cows, ranked by BPI

Name	Owner	Sire	DOB	BPI	ASI	Overall Type	Mammary System	Survival	Somatic Cell Count	Fertility	Feed Saved	Heat Tolerance
GALLRAE VOSAC DORA 829	GALLRAE HOLSTEINS	VOSAC	Oct-10	385	254	94	97	105	148	111	151	98
GORBRO UNONUMERO TIFFANY-ET	R K & J R GORDON	NUMEROUNO	Apr-13	382	281	108	107	105	136	101	-22	94
PURNIM OMAN BIOSMA	PURNIM HOLSTEINS	OMAN	Jun-08	381	272	97	94	106	133	112	15	102
DONOVAN MANIFOLD 15291	DONOVANS DAIRYING PTY LTD	HOMANIFOLD	Jan-12	378	287	106	104	106	134	104	-71	99
HINDLEE DELSANTO LOYALTY 13134	J M & V LILICO	DELSANTO	Aug-13	378	280	100	102	105	155	104	15	94
CARENDA MVP GEORDIE	KITCHEN FARMS	MVP	Sep-15	377	219	111	110	111	132	106	12	96
HINDLEE PICOLA DALLAS 14101-ET	J M & V LILICO	PICOLA	Aug-14	377	297	106	109	106	150	97	-118	94
RENGAW MANOMAN JANE-ET	RENGAW HOLSTEINS	MANOMAN	Jan-11	376	261	101	104	108	159	107	-59	96
WILARA BUDDHA STEPH	W E & M J & T W HENRY	BUDDHA	Aug-13	376	296	101	103	105	135	102	58	98
VALA QUANTUM NADY-IMP-ET-PF	VALA HOLSTEINS	QUANTUM	May-18	373	213	104	107	112	166	105	50	93
WILARA SILVER KALIDASCOPE	W E & M J & T W HENRY	SILVER	Aug-15	369	245	101	106	111	141	107	-63	101
VALA BANDARES BOLIANA-ET	VALA HOLSTEINS	BANDARES	Jul-18	364	152	105	110	110	163	111	-14	93
KOLOMBO BEACON 9125-OC	B & J GAVENLOCK	BEACON	Jul-12	360	319	103	102	104	141	97	15	92
HINDLEE WYMAN LOYALTY 15255	J M & V LILICO	WYMAN	Sep-15	358	219	98	99	104	152	113	49	97
GLAMORGAN ROUMARE TIFF-ET	GLAMORGAN HOLSTEINS	ROUMARE	Mar-09	356	332	103	101	102	123	98	-87	86
KIRK ANDREWS ANCHOR JACKIE 1685	ANDREW GREEN	ANCHOR	Nov-15	354	235	107	106	107	137	109	-67	102
CURRAJUGLE MOGUL GOLDEN 2288	K N & S K JOLLIFFE	MOGUL	Oct-14	352	196	104	106	112	149	108	-98	92
COOMBOONA BALISTO SASHA	COOMBOONA HOLDINGS GROUP	BALISTO	Jan-15	351	208	103	104	109	179	104	26	92
IVYHURST TRICKIN GAIL	A P & C M SEBIRE	TRICKIN	Aug-13	347	245	96	98	103	125	114	-93	99
JET STAR TRICKIN ANATASIA 2235-ET	PETER BYRNE	TRICKIN	May-13	347	249	97	97	105	138	107	5	86
WILARA PERSEUS JO	W E & M J & T W HENRY	PERSEUS	Sep-18	347	212	97	97	106	156	109	123	90
PROM MEADOWS WYMAN 3330	A D & G L MACQUEEN	WYMAN	Apr-13	346	244	101	103	104	138	106	42	100
HINDLEE GUARINI LOYALTY 14122	J M & V LILICO	GGGUARINI	Aug-14	345	226	100	98	107	156	109	-39	97
COUNTRY ROAD WYMAN ANASTASIA	ROSS A COOK	WYMAN	Sep-13	342	211	102	101	107	156	107	24	100
IVYHURST ROYALMAN COKE	A P & C M SEBIRE	ROYALMAN	Jul-15	342	261	108	103	106	130	103	-89	94
CARENDA MENCHOV VEXIL	KITCHEN FARMS	MENCHOV	Mar-15	341	171	102	101	108	150	113	-13	101
WINAVIEW FLAGSHIP PERFECTOR 1329	WINAVIEW HOLSTEINS	FLAGSHIP	Jan-18	341	159	99	104	109	150	115	-75	93
VALA BANDARES SHEANA-ET	VALA HOLSTEINS	BANDARES	Sep-18	339	155	105	108	112	165	108	-30	97
GALLRAE GOLDCROWN DORA 983-ET	WINAVIEW HOLSTEINS	GOLDCROWN	Mar-13	338	217	96	98	105	143	110	83	97
MANNA FARM HALOGEN DEO 2-ET	MANNA FARM HOLSTEINS	HALOGEN	Mar-15	338	230	98	105	106	146	106	61	97
WARRAMONT DOORMAN DAYBREAK 10TH-ET	D J & T A FIEBIG	DOORMAN	Jun-15	338	269	103	104	107	161	98	-28	93
BUNDALONG MOGUL WAVES 56	W R & B G ANDERSON	MOGUL	Apr-13	337	213	107	106	109	125	107	-72	95
CARENDA MVP RICKY	KITCHEN FARMS	MVP	Apr-15	337	246	107	106	109	134	103	-116	99
COOMBOONA RUBICON SHEEN-ET	COOMBOONA HOLDINGS GROUP	EDGRUBICON	Jan-16	336	203	104	103	111	153	106	-22	97
ILLAWAMBRA CHAIRMAN PRIDE 3729	T J & L R PARRISH	CHAIRMAN	Aug-18	336	200	102	106	109	148	106	-25	92
JET STAR EMERALD CARLY 2205-ET	ADLEJAMA HOLSTEINS	EMERALD	Oct-12	336	230	102	107	106	139	106	-22	91
KAARMONA RUBICON DESTINY 3	GRAEME SPRUNT	EDGRUBICON	Apr-16	336	193	107	108	110	168	101	-12	96
CARENDA PICOLA DUCHESS	KITCHEN FARMS	PICOLA	Jul-14	335	217	106	107	107	153	104	-39	94
ILLAWAMBRA CHAIRMAN NETTA 3762	T J & L R PARRISH	CHAIRMAN	Oct-18	334	182	102	102	110	157	109	40	96
KAARMONA WILLPOWER PAULA 3-ET	GRAEME SPRUNT	GENVVWILPOWER	Feb-14	334	178	109	109	110	125	113	-91	99
BELLBROOK CIDER NANCY	B L & M COSTER	CIDER	Mar-16	333	169	103	103	107	136	111	57	100
CARENDA FLAGSHIP BARB	KITCHEN FARMS	FLAGSHIP	Jul-18	333	133	101	105	108	166	114	23	102
CARENDA PERSEUS SUNNY	KITCHEN FARMS	PERSEUS	Jul-18	333	152	101	101	111	159	115	-63	94
EMU BANKS ROCKY DARIA 8280	B J & J L DICKSON	CRVBOUWROCKY	Mar-16	333	207	102	102	107	155	108	36	94
EMU BANKS CHAIRMAN JENNIFER 9657	B J & J L DICKSON	CHAIRMAN	Sep-18	332	211	103	101	109	136	108	-49	89
GLOMAR SILVER LADY 5833-ET	R JOHNSTON	SILVER	Jul-16	332	245	103	105	108	127	104	-105	91
ILLAWAMBRA SUPERHERO DALLAS 3611	T J & L R PARRISH	JSSUPERHERO	Jul-17	332	150	103	102	109	161	113	-33	98
RENGAW WYMAN JANE-ET 373	RENGAW HOLSTEINS	WYMAN	Jan-14	332	200	101	102	108	130	111	60	95
CALISTER GAL FRANCESCA 6770	CRAIG A LISTER	GALACTICO	Mar-16	331	228	98	101	106	172	103	45	93
KIRK ANDREWS REACTOR JACKIE 1736	ANDREW GREEN	REACTOR	Jun-16	331	277	98	102	104	134	99	16	84



## Top genomically tested heifers, ranked by BPI

Name	Owner	Sire	DOB	BPI	ASI	Overall Type	Mammary System	Survival	Somatic Cell Count	Fertility	Feed Saved	Heat Tolerance
VALA QUANTUM NADY-IMP-ET-PF	VALA HOLSTEINS	QUANTUM	May-18	373	213	104	107	112	166	105	50	93
VALA BANDARES BOLIANA-ET	VALA HOLSTEINS	BANDARES	Jul-18	364	152	105	110	110	163	111	-14	93
WILARA PERSEUS JO	W E & M J & T W HENRY	PERSEUS	Sep-18	347	212	97	97	106	156	109	123	90
WINAVIEW FLAGSHIP PERFECTOR 1329	WINAVIEW HOLSTEINS	FLAGSHIP	Jan-18	341	159	99	104	109	150	115	-75	93
VALA BANDARES SHEANA-ET	VALA HOLSTEINS	BANDARES	Sep-18	339	155	105	108	112	165	108	-30	97
ILLAWAMBRA CHAIRMAN PRIDE 3729	T J & L R PARRISH	CHAIRMAN	Aug-18	336	200	102	106	109	148	106	-25	92
ILLAWAMBRA CHAIRMAN NETTA 3762	T J & L R PARRISH	CHAIRMAN	Oct-18	334	182	102	102	110	157	109	40	96
CARENDA FLAGSHIP BARB	KITCHEN FARMS	FLAGSHIP	Jul-18	333	133	101	105	108	166	114	23	102
CARENDA PERSEUS SUNNY	KITCHEN FARMS	PERSEUS	Jul-18	333	152	101	101	111	159	115	-63	94
EMU BANKS CHAIRMAN JENNIFER 9657	B J & J L DICKSON	CHAIRMAN	Sep-18	332	211	103	101	109	136	108	-49	89
ILLAWAMBRA SUPERHERO DALLAS 3611	T J & L R PARRISH	JSSUPERHERO	Jul-17	332	150	103	102	109	161	113	-33	98
BUNKERS HILL PERSEUS DELTA 3680	GREGORY JOHN PARRISH	PERSEUS	Feb-18	330	158	101	103	108	156	112	27	93
COOMBOONA CONTENDER SNOOP-ET	COOMBOONA HOLDINGS GROUP	CBCONTENDER	Sep-17	329	108	105	108	111	168	113	25	95
GLOMAR CHAIRMAN LADY 6548-ET	R JOHNSTON	CHAIRMAN	Nov-18	328	227	101	101	108	154	103	-20	88
ILLAWAMBRA SUPERHERO NETTA 3637	T J & L R PARRISH	JSSUPERHERO	Oct-17	328	127	103	103	110	160	114	106	100
JELBART ALLTIME 14335	JELBART DAIRY PTY LTD	ALLTIME	Aug-18	328	131	102	105	107	165	115	18	93
ILLAWAMBRA PERSEUS JOSEPHINE 3684	T J & L R PARRISH	PERSEUS	Feb-18	326	175	100	103	107	167	111	-15	88
KINLORA SUPERHERO 5026	J & K PEKIN	JSSUPERHERO	May-18	326	145	99	102	107	148	115	43	97
MANNA FARM ATLEY2573 DEB	MANNA FARM HOLSTEINS	1789096	Dec-17	324	125	99	98	110	149	115	77	103
CARENDA PERSEUS VENUS	KITCHEN FARMS	PERSEUS	Feb-18	323	114	104	107	110	161	114	13	96
COUNTRY ROAD CHAIRMAN SONIA	ROSS A COOK	CHAIRMAN	Aug-18	323	220	105	104	108	137	104	-79	92
CALISTER ALL FRISKY 6880-ET	CRAIG A LISTER	ALLTIME	Jul-17	322	191	98	103	108	165	106	30	91
WILARA CHAIRMAN KALITHEA	W E & M J & T W HENRY	CHAIRMAN	Sep-18	322	181	104	105	110	151	108	-20	96
WILARA SUPERHERO KALISTA-ET	W E & M J & T W HENRY	JSSUPERHERO	Jul-17	322	152	103	105	111	154	111	1	98
HINDLEE PERSEUS XMASPIC 18103-ET	J M & V LILICO	PERSEUS	Aug-18	321	153	105	101	110	156	113	-73	94
MANNA FARM CHAIRMAN DELAGO	MANNA FARM HOLSTEINS	CHAIRMAN	Sep-18	321	156	102	105	109	144	111	9	94
REDMAW POWERBALL ELOIS	JARED & COURTNEY IRELAND	JSPowerball	Aug-17	321	197	102	101	108	135	107	27	90
RENGAW ALLTIME COSMO 2287	RENGAW HOLSTEINS	ALLTIME	Jun-18	321	111	99	102	110	160	119	-2	95
DIXIE PARK PERSEUS 4383	MATTHEW GLENNEN	PERSEUS	Mar-18	319	122	102	102	109	166	116	22	101
HINDLEE ROYAL PEMBROKE 18099-ET	J M & V LILICO	PEMBROKE	Jul-18	319	181	102	103	109	162	106	40	89
VALA BANDARES LADYLOVE-ET	VALA HOLSTEINS	BANDARES	Jul-18	318	120	105	107	110	157	112	11	96
MANDELLA CHITA FRANCHISE	R & R MORGAN	FRANCHISE	Aug-17	315	144	97	100	108	142	117	60	97
MOONARALLA PERSEUS 7447	K W & B L RAVENHILL	PERSEUS	Aug-18	315	127	103	105	111	162	113	61	99
REDMAW ROWLING LOOT 2301	JARED & COURTNEY IRELAND	ROWLING	Jul-18	314	195	102	102	107	145	109	-14	91
DONOVANS GRIFF 21017	DONOVANS DAIRYING PTY LTD	GRIFF	Feb-18	313	189	102	103	109	142	106	51	94
GLOMAR CHAIRMAN LADY 6512	R JOHNSTON	CHAIRMAN	Sep-18	313	188	104	101	111	162	107	-117	92
CALISTER PERSEUS 7057	CRAIG A LISTER	PERSEUS	Dec-18	312	125	103	104	107	159	112	89	97
CALISTER SUPERHERO FLOSS 7056-ET	CRAIG A LISTER	JSSUPERHERO	Dec-18	312	175	104	102	109	150	108	-50	96
CALISTER ALLTIME FRENZY 6904-ET	CRAIG A LISTER	ALLTIME	Aug-17	311	169	97	103	108	159	110	18	90
CARENDA SUPERHERO VERO-ET	KITCHEN FARMS	JSSUPERHERO	Feb-18	311	134	108	106	110	159	108	-28	98
KIRK ANDREWS ROWLING ARGYLL 1910	ANDREW GREEN	ROWLING	Jun-18	311	176	101	103	111	143	108	-45	93
REDMAW MAEBULL IVORY 2333	JARED & COURTNEY IRELAND	MAEBULL	Aug-18	311	144	103	103	109	144	112	14	99
HINDLEE MYSTIC IRENE 18261	J M & V LILICO	MYSTIC	Sep-18	310	169	99	102	108	152	111	27	92
COUNTRY ROAD CHAIRMAN ANASTASIA	ROSS A COOK	CHAIRMAN	Jul-18	309	146	101	106	107	162	110	-9	95
VALA BANDARES BOLADE-ET	VALA HOLSTEINS	BANDARES	Jul-18	309	126	107	108	110	163	109	11	100
WILARA ALLTIME KALLAIS	W E & M J & T W HENRY	ALLTIME	Aug-17	309	162	98	107	109	147	110	-6	92
EMU BANKS MAGICTOUCH CENTREPIECE 9086-ET	B J & J L DICKSON	MAGICTOUCH	Jul-18	308	121	99	102	109	163	113	80	97
BLUFF GLEN SUPERHERO BARBI 2878	PRICE HILL PTY LTD	JSSUPERHERO	Mar-18	307	58	101	106	112	165	120	-21	106
COUNTRY ROAD SUPERHERO CAROL	ROSS A COOK	JSSUPERHERO	Feb-18	307	169	104	104	107	152	105	62	97



## Top Holstein Bulls, ranked by Balanced Performance Index (Australian Proven and Genomic)

Bull ID	Name	Codes	DOB	Source	BPI	Rel	ASI	Rel	Overall Type	Mammary System	Survival	Somatic Cell Count	Fertility	Feed Saved	Heat Tolerance
29H017747	COOKIECUTTER HARPER	A12	28/12/2013	I	397	70	297	75	103	104	107	154	102	19	94
14H007328	COASTAL-VIEW MOOKIE	A22,BLF,CVF,DPF	22/11/2012	A	394	87	282	98	105	107	111	137	105	-69	102
29H017458	BOGHILL GLAMOUR PERSUADE	A22	23/01/2018	A	392	66	169	77	101	103	111	174	115	31	94
29H018698	ABS JERONIMO-P-ET	A22,	06/03/2017	A	389	66	188	77	103	103	112	162	113	65	96
29H018863	DENOVO 14520 AMSTEL-ET	A12	03/10/2017	A	388	66	184	77	101	107	110	160	113	5	95
29H017429	RELOUGH CLINCHER	A22	19/04/2017	A	383	66	168	77	101	101	109	167	117	51	99
07H013696	SSI SCENARIO LORD		30/04/2016	A	376	67	179	77	98	107	112	157	115	3	95
0200H010777	WESTCOAST PERSEUS	A22,CVF,BLF	05/12/2015	A	375	68	179	78	103	106	110	171	113	-38	95
SUPERDAVE	WARRAMONT SUPERHERO DAVE-ET	A22	17/10/2017	A	374	67	238	77	102	103	107	160	106	22	93
PEMBERTON	CARENDA PEMBERTON	A22	14/03/2018	A	372	66	185	77	106	108	109	175	109	-43	93
7H014174	OCD ALLTIME LATROBE-ET	A12	17/11/2016	A	372	66	199	77	98	105	110	167	112	10	89
ITLETSGO	VOGUE LETSGO TV TL TY CF	A12	16/05/2017	A	364	66	176	77	106	108	113	154	111	-32	95
29H018678	DE-SU 14049 FLOWRIDER-ET	A12	11/02/2017	A	362	66	147	77	105	110	112	165	114	-66	99
011H012132	PEAK ALTAMOLINA-ET	A12	28/12/2016	A	361	66	135	77	102	106	112	165	117	-24	96
NACASH	NACASH	A22	14/12/2017	A	360	66	206	77	103	103	111	166	109	-74	96
CRVSHERO	PEAK SHERO		26/11/2016	A	360	66	165	77	101	102	111	183	110	18	101
29H018478	PINE-TREE SAMIRAH-ET	A22	15/03/2016	A	359	68	217	77	103	105	111	151	109	-56	94
011H011380	LONE-OAK-ACRES ALTAROBLE	BLF,CVF	12/10/2012	A	358	83	115	93	112	116	115	163	111	-26	104
29H019002	PINE-TREE HURON-ET	A22	27/12/2017	A	358	65	165	76	99	104	107	160	117	-15	94
SUPERJET	SUPERJET	A12	27/06/2017	A	357	67	175	77	106	105	111	175	110	-77	92
011H012246	PEAK ALIATBAY-ET	A22	28/06/2017	A	355	66	177	77	101	104	112	166	110	-28	93
7H014250	PINE-TREE CW LEGACY-ET	A22	23/06/2017	A	355	66	176	77	102	106	112	178	109	79	97
ANAKIN	KIRK ANDREWS VADOR M186	A12	07/04/2018	A	354	66	230	77	103	104	107	143	109	-91	97
7H013981	SANDY-VALLEY BD FREEBORN-ET	A22	14/09/2016	A	353	67	154	77	103	106	112	173	110	42	93
29H018660	ABS PAULY-P-ET	A22,	20/12/2016	A	352	66	153	77	101	101	111	167	113	37	96
011H012285	AARDEMA ALTANIXIE-ET	A22	22/05/2017	A	352	65	207	77	104	107	110	151	104	11	95
ITDUPLO	GHEZZI GPLUS DUPLO TV TL TY CF	A12	19/06/2017	A	352	66	153	77	103	104	109	158	114	49	100
011H011493	GLEN-D-HAVEN ALTAHOTROD	A22,BLF,DPF	05/09/2013	I	351	78	248	83	108	107	111	134	106	-236	91
7H011395	S-S-I SHAMROCK MYSTIC	A12	28/05/2011	I	351	74	145	81	99	100	112	171	119	4	101
0200H011284	PROGENESIS POWERHOUSE	A12	01/11/2017	A	351	66	163	77	105	109	109	175	107	8	95
0200H011028	SANDY-VALLEY CHALLENGER-ET	A12	02/01/2017	A	351	66	131	77	102	104	110	164	117	20	97
0200H010779	PROGENESIS COSMIC	A22	05/03/2016	A	350	68	164	78	102	103	113	157	113	15	99
KADE	WILARA HERO KADE-ET	A11	23/07/2017	A	348	66	187	77	104	104	112	159	111	-126	97
CHAIRMAN	ST GEN DIRECTOR CHAIRMAN-ET	A12	15/04/2016	A	346	67	198	77	102	105	109	156	109	-10	94
FIRSTCHOICE	CALISTER ALLTIME FC200-ET	A12	29/07/2017	A	345	67	214	77	99	103	107	161	106	44	87
29H018790	PINE-TREE DURABLE-ET	A22	25/05/2017	A	345	66	149	77	103	108	111	159	110	136	97
7H013373	S-S-I 1STCLASS FLAGSHIP	A11	21/12/2014	I	345	72	132	80	101	110	109	188	110	42	95
14H014327	LARS-ACRES SUPER NERD-ET	A11	20/04/2017	A	345	66	147	77	102	105	111	171	113	-22	98
VDGCOMIC	DOUBLE-EAGLE GRNTE COMIC-ET		08/03/2018	A	345	66	139	77	104	105	112	168	114	7	101
29H018603	PINE-TREE GALVESTON-ET	A12	03/09/2016	A	343	67	176	77	100	101	110	164	115	-90	95
GGIHOTSPOT	WIL HOTSPOT P	A12,	17/01/2017	A	343	66	187	77	103	104	112	154	108	-7	92
0200H011251	PROGENESIS WIMBLEDON	A22	26/09/2017	A	343	65	201	77	101	105	110	154	107	-55	95
0200H011059	PROGENESIS MOOSE	A12	01/03/2017	A	343	66	177	77	102	103	112	163	109	1	96
GLORIUS	HINDLEE SUPERHERO CLARENCE 1746	A11	07/09/2017	A	343	67	165	77	103	104	109	157	111	32	100
7H012266	WOODCREST MOGUL YODER-ET		05/01/2013	I	342	73	186	76	109	109	112	127	108	-8	97
TAILORDAN	WARRAMONT TAILOR DAN	A22	27/02/2017	A	341	68	158	78	100	102	112	156	112	16	94
0200H010755	WESTCOAST GALAHAD	A11,BLF,CVF	03/11/2015	A	341	68	150	77	103	103	110	172	113	-96	94
29H017706	DE SU 12128 TAILOR	A12	05/01/2014	I	340	69	123	75	107	108	112	188	109	-43	97
GGICHARMING	HLM CHARMING	A22	05/01/2016	A	340	67	161	78	102	102	112	167	110	-40	92
TLGMOHAWK	COOMBOONA DUKE MOHAWK-IMP-ET	A22	27/01/2017	A	340	67	222	77	105	106	109	145	106	-47	100



## Top Holstein Australian-proven bulls, ranked by Balanced Performance Index (BPI)

Bull ID	Name	Codes	DOB	Source	BPI	Rel	ASI	Rel	Dtrs	Herds	Overall Type	Mammary System	Survival	Somatic Cell Count	Fertility	Feed Saved	Heat Tolerance
14H007328	COASTAL-VIEW MOOKIE	A22,BLF,CVF,DPF	22/11/2012	A	394	87	282	98	395	40	105	107	111	137	105	-69	102
011H011380	LONE-OAK-ACRES ALTAROBLE	BLF,CVF	12/10/2012	A	358	83	115	93	120	23	112	116	115	163	111	-26	104
MAEBULL	CALISTER MAEBULL	A22	27/07/2012	A	334	84	142	95	126	35	102	101	110	192	110	17	102
14H007303	LE-O-LA MOGUL GAMBLER	A22,BLF,CNF,CVF	16/10/2012	A	333	85	172	97	333	20	109	114	112	153	104	-4	102
CBSUPERSHOT	COGENT SUPERSHOT		14/03/2013	A	325	86	138	95	183	43	105	103	110	193	110	15	101
JSPOWERBALL	VIEW-HOME POWERBALL P ET	,A22	20/05/2013	A	318	79	180	87	54	15	104	103	110	121	110	40	93
FRONTPAGE	ILLAWAMBRA FACEBOOK STATUS	A22,CVF	25/12/2013	A	317	72	229	78	41	16	98	97	107	133	106	86	97
011H011379	LONE-OAK-ACRES ALTARABO	A22	14/10/2012	A	315	87	142	97	327	54	107	110	113	174	103	-43	99
CRVGFORCE	DELTA G-FORCE	A12	09/04/2010	A	315	86	207	95	113	19	96	100	105	161	109	-51	89
29H016714	DE-SU 11236 BALISTO-ET	A22	25/03/2012	A	311	87	230	94	105	26	103	102	108	159	99	0	88

## OBITUARIES



### Charlie Shearer

The Holstein community was saddened to hear of the passing of Charlie Shearer (Wyoming Holsteins, Singleton NSW) in March.

Brian Leslie from Dairy Livestock Services recalled Wyoming Holsteins dominating the Sydney and Brisbane Royal Shows, especially throughout the '70s and '80s, winning countless Champions and Premier Exhibitor awards and also made the trip to Melbourne Royal winning the Premier Exhibitor award.

Among Wyoming's most notable animals were sister and brother Wyoming Kemp Meg and Wyoming Meg Ned. Their achievements were amazing. The herd received the Master Breeder award in 1994.

Graeme Gillan from Holstein Australia said that beyond the showing, Charlie made an immense contribution to Holstein Australia over a long period. He was NSW President from 1978 to 1980. He was awarded Federal Life membership in 1993, having served 27 continuous years on Federal Council, including 1983-85 as Federal President. His involvement continued until 2006.

Charlie's passion for classification leaves a legacy that will continue beyond current generations of Holstein Australia members. Initially elected onto the Classification Committee in 1974, Charlie served four terms for continuous service of 16 years, the maximum allowed. In 2004 he returned and served another three-year term on the committee.

Charlie was a regular visitor to Canada and in 1982 reported to the Classification Committee and Federal Council on the benefits of Linear Classification, which was introduced in 1983 and continues to be the basis for classification of Australian Holsteins today. In



2005, Charlie and Bill Leggat visited Holstein Canada to investigate Australia the potential for Australia to adopt the Canadian classification system. This led to Australia becoming the first country outside Canada to adopt their system, which continues to be basis of our classification system.

### Ted Bett

Ted Bett (Wellstrand Holsteins, Mundijong, WA) will be greatly missed by his family, Holstein enthusiasts and his local community. Ted died on 2 April, aged 91, leaving a lasting legacy with the dairy industry, Rotary, the Centrals Football Club, Mundijong Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade and Graceford Residential Aged Care.

By age 13 he was a well-known regular on the WA the show circuit, exhibiting with the family at Perth, Waroona, Harvey and Brunswick.

Ted and his wife, Joy, registered the Wellstrand prefix in 1970. A dedicated and astute Holstein breeder and exhibitor Ted, served on Federal Council from 1979 to 1981, was WA State President from 1980 to 1983 and twice Master Breeder (1999 and 2008).

He was known for his generosity in time and advice; for example, in mentoring young people and giving heifers to help them start their own herd. The farm was also involved with the Murdoch University herd health program, giving vets and students the opportunity to see dairy cattle health in a real world setting.

Ted's passion for breeding saw the Wellstrand herd develop through pedigree cows from local and interstate breeders. He was at the forefront of embryo transfer. When Ted and Joy dispersed the herd for retirement in 2011 they set a state record for average sale price, a testimony to the quality of their herd.

*Compiled from information supplied by Colin Gilbert*



HJ





## Spoilt for choice

The April ABV release sees Holstein breeders spoilt for choice, with more than 1,300 Holstein sires achieving DataGene's Good Bulls status.

Holstein Australia CEO Graeme Gillan said the diversity of offering of high genetic merit Holsteins had strengthened significantly in recent years.

"We've seen some new bull companies enter the market, which has broadened the offering. Additionally, most bull companies selling in Australia have embraced the Australian genetic evaluation system and are actively offering bulls specifically suited to Australian dairy farming conditions," Graeme said.

"The result is a wide range of quality genomic and proven bulls on offer and they get better with each ABV release."

For example, there are now 267 Holstein bulls on the market with a Balanced Performance Index (BPI) of greater than 300 and 349 Good Bulls with a Daughter Fertility ABV of at least 115 (see table).

"This gives Holstein breeders plenty of choice to select for their individual breeding priorities for specific traits, company preferences and budget. By selecting bulls that carry the Good Bulls icon, Holstein breeders can be confident they will be improving the overall genetic merit of their herd for the traits that contribute to dairy business profit," Graeme said.

Price does not need to be a barrier to using Good Bulls. Within the top 100 bulls for BPI, the price ranges from less than \$20 per straw to \$150 with even better value often available through package deals.

### April ABV release at a glance (Holsteins)

Number of Good Bulls	1,311
Number of Good Bulls with BPI at least 300	267
Number of companies marketing Good Bulls in Australia	15
Number of Good Bulls that are at least 115 for daughter fertility	349
Number of Good Bulls that are at least 105 for Heat Tolerance	105
Number of Good Bulls that are at least 110 for Feed Saved.	45



## Genetics Australia's 2019 Bull Team

Genetics Australia's strong portfolio of sires includes exciting premium daughters' proven sires, super new genomic sires from renowned Australian cow families plus the best sires from around the globe. These bulls were selected with the best interests of Australian dairy farmers in mind.

Farmer favourite Calister MAEBULL (Palermo X Shottle) continues his outstanding form, increasing reliability with additional milking daughters to his proof. With a solid BPI of +334, this A22 bull has a well-rounded proof, including +110 daughter fertility and high component production traits.

Another Aussie star is Warramont Superhero Dave-ET SUPERDAVE (Superhero X Doorman). This exciting genomic sire continues his strong form from 2018 and is sitting at the top end of the BPI table with a figure of +374. SUPERDAVE's outstanding ASI of +238 demonstrates what the young A22 bull is capable of and farmers are keen to see his first calves arrive in 2019.

The April ABV run sees the emergence of several new genomic superstars thanks to our ongoing relationship with many of Australia's top Holstein breeding herds. Genetics Australia has a solid group of Australian-bred young sires that are the equal of the best genetics we can source anywhere in the world.

ENDGAME is causing excitement around the world, but it's not only the latest Avenger's box office hit. Winaview Superhero Avenger - ENDGAME (Superhero x Monterey) is the highest-ever genotyped BPI sire standing in Australia with a whopping +382 BPI. This outstanding young sire is backed by a family renowned for transmitting type along with fertility and health traits. His dam, Winaview Monterey Alicia 1264 GP83 @ 2yrs, calved down with the Superhero son in September 2018 and is pregnant to calve again in September 2019. ENDGAME's nearest four dams are all currently milking in the Winaview Holstein herd run by Brendon Winter in Warragul South, Victoria. His sire stack reads, MONTEREY x SUPERSIRE x IOTA and ENDGAME pairs his BPI of +382 with his +107/+106 Overall Type/Mammary with great components and will be available for spring breeding.

The 2019 catalogue has a host of top sires, with a special focus on A22 sires displaying tremendous type, production and fertility scores. There is a bull for everyone and we are pleased to be able to keep our commitment to the Australian industry of providing the best genetics selected for Australian farming conditions.

**More information: [genaust.com.au](http://genaust.com.au)**

**Warramont  
Superhero Dave -ET  
SUPERDAVE +374  
BPI.**





## Semex Genomax™ lineup delivers

The Semex lineup once again was strengthened and fortified with the traits, high BPI, LPI, TPI Australian producers need to breed healthier, longer-lasting herds.

In April, we're proud to release more sires to our Genomax lineup.

### 0200H010777 WESTCOAST PERSEUS

Genomax and Calving Ease (4.6% SCE) and A2A2 sire Westcoast Peseus is a Penmanship from a VG-88-3YR Doorman. Next dam is a VG-87 Robust that traces back to the Pine-Tree Martha Sheen family that has been worked with extensively around the world and made numerous influential sires and donor females. Perseus will excel as an extreme calving ease sire, A2A2 designation and as a high-ranking BPI sire at +375 with +103 Overall Type, +106 Mammary System and +105 Calving Ease.

### 0200H011242 PROGENESIS PAVAROTTI

From the Progenesis program, Genomax, RobotReady™ and A2A2 sire Pavarotti offers a solid GTPI proof with high production at +1593 PTAM, +86 PTAF and +61 PTAP, with udders scores to match at +2.06 UDC, +3.42 RUH and +3.15 RUW, he is sure to sire impressive looking cows with a great will to produce. In Australia he's BPI +310, +106 Overall Type, +108 Mammary and +110 Daughter Fertility. Sired by Frazzled, he is from a VG Silver from Progenesis Enforcer Pat who is also the dam of popular sire Genomax sires.

### 0200H011078 PROGENESIS METHOD

A health trait specialist from the Progenesis program with low SCE of 5.4%, +3.5 DPR, and +5.1 PL and +2648 GTPI, Method is sure to leave profitable cattle through their health and fertility contributions. He's sired by the popular Progenesis Granite, who has his first daughters starting to calve and leaving a good first impression. His dam is a Penmanship from a Defender then a Bookem that goes back to Seagull-Bay Oman Mirror. With this pedigree it is no surprise to see Method excelling in the trait profile that he does. With +324 BPI, +150 ASI, +0.14% Protein and +0.11% Fat and +112 Daughter Fertility.

### 0200H011080 PROGENESIS HAPPYDAY

Another product of the Progenesis program, Happyday offers a solid foundation of genomic figures at +2740 GTPI, his breakdown makes him a very attractive and useable sire across a herd. He's a Genomax, A2A2 and GrazingPro sire with production of +1810 PTAM, +77 PTAF, +61 PTAP, combined with health and fertility levels that take him to another level with +5.9 PL, low 2.65 SCS and +3.5 DPR make him a very complete sire. His BPI +306, +806 Milk, +174 SCC and +115 Daughter Fertility confirm this as well. Sired by Progenesis Harmony, from a Denver x Halogen x Mayfield and then OCD Planet Danica EX-93-5YR-USA, this is a family that has continued to produce generation after generation with the results continually backing up the numbers.

More information on: [www.semex.com.au](http://www.semex.com.au)



## Making better cows faster

ABS National Sales Manager, Paul Quinlan, said genetic improvement is the single most important factor in dairy profitability at the moment. "Despite dry conditions and feed shortages, which are increasing costs, those who are investing wisely in elite genetics are seeing permanent and cumulative improvements in their business," he said. "ABS' Genetic Management System (GMS) makes it easy to customise breeding plans that demonstrate the desired outcomes in an easily understood and transparent form."

ABS has selected sires that will make healthy cows for the Australian farming system. This was evident in 2018 when customers added 29H016888 Seagull-Bay MVP into their breeding program. He excels in farmer Likeability at 107.

"With more than 160 cows bred to MVP every day last year, he is proving to be today's 'sire of choice' matching other farmer favourites such as Goldbullion, Shottle and Medallion," Paul said. MVP's farmer satisfaction and proven proof reliability is unmatched in the top 15 proven sires. With more than 1,000 milking daughters and carrying the A2A2 characteristic, his outstanding udders and conformation will have a long-term influence on the Australian national herd.

29H017747 Cookiecutter HARPER, a Balisto son, is currently the highest-ranked globally proven sire in Australia at 397 Balanced Performance Index (BPI). He comes from the outstanding 'H' cow family led by Halo, the dam of Epic Hazel, the dam of Harper. In this proof run ABS has added several elite genomic sires to the BPI list. Another that has joined heterozygous polled sire 29H018698 ABS Jeronimo P at 389 on the BPI is 29H017458 Boghill Glamour Persuade at 392 BPI. Persuade also has elite Daughter Fertility at 115 and is a carrier of the A2A2 gene. Persuade is a UK-based sire and his pedigree is a who's who of cow families with 5th dam Larcrest Cosmopolitan alongside other notable sires from the same family: Commander, Collude, Calumet, Cayle and Charley, the former #1 TPI sire in the world. These elite sires, all measured under the Australian BPI index system, are available because of ABS' genomic strategy and the meticulous selection of genetics from around the world.

More information: [absglobal.com/au](http://absglobal.com/au)



**Boghill  
Glamour  
Persuade.**





## Impressive addition to the line up

The April Datagene ABV release run delivered promising prospects to the ST Genetics Australia sire line up.

Australian sire Kirk Andrews FON DOO entered the bull stud in 2018 from breeders Kirk Andrews Holsteins. FON DOO had an impressive April proof on several indices, now sitting at 2774 GTPI with 2715 lbs Milk and +2.44 PTAT along with +174 lbs Fat and Protein. His BPI increased to 307 and 108 Daughter Fertility with a solid 108 for Mammary Systems. FON DOO is housed in Australia so if you are looking for the combination of high milk, great type, teat length and combined fat and protein lbs, (#1 available Cogent sire for fat and protein lbs combined) FON DOO is the bull for you. Added to this Fon Doo is A2A2 and available in SexedULTRA4M and Conventional semen.

An addition to the 2019 Australian team is Vala Suits BOLD. Sired by the previous #1 Australian standing polled sire Coomboona Ocean Suits PP, BOLD graduated at 322 BPI, 262 HWI and 337 TWI along with 107 for both Type and Mammary. This A2 sire resides back to the famous Rainyridge Tony Beauty cow family. Breeders continue to talk about the calves sired by Guye Holdings SAMITE that are in the calf pens. SAMITE is a genuine calving ease sire at 5.2% and also short gestation sire. The comments we hear are calves are born small but are very aggressive drinkers. You can use SAMITE with confidence in heifer programs and know that his type won't disappoint with +2.98 PTAT and +2.90 UDDERS in the April proofs.

The popular Delicious cow family continues to breed bulls that meet the needs of farmers. One of the members of the ST team from the Delicious cow family is Mr Spring NITRO. An AltaSpring son from Ms Delicious Nightout has 321 BPI, 282 TWI and 322 TWI with an impressive 109 Daughter Fertility. On the US base he also sits well at 2677 GTPI and +2.16 PTAT. He is a new addition that will be a sire to consider in your autumn joining period.

For the high type enthusiasts, Coomboona Expander HEIDRICK, the Expander x Doorman son ticks all the boxes with 108 Type on the Australian rankings and +3.70 PTAT on the US Base. His outstanding linear profile won't disappoint, without sacrificing health and production.

**More information: [stgenetics.com.au](http://stgenetics.com.au)**



**Kirk  
Andrews  
FON DOO.**



## Alta sires shine brightly

Alta Genetics again shines brightly when it comes to high-ranking BPI sires. In the All Bulls list, Alta has five of the top 20 bulls and an amazing 65 bulls equal to or better than the top 1% level of 292 BPI. In fact, we have the #1 bull in many categories:

#1 TWI Sire AltaROBLE 428 TWI

#1 Survival ABV Sire AltaROBLE 115 Sur

#1 Mammary Sire AltaROBLE 116 Mamm

=#1 Survival Genomic Sire AltaZONE 114 Sur

#1 Protein Kg Sire AltaHOTROD 48kgs P

#1 SCS bull at 102 Milking Speed AltaSABRE 191 SCS

AltaROBLE is definitely the new Superstar of the Holstein breed in Australia. Not only is he the #1 Mammary bull in the top list at 116 (112 OType), AltaROBLE is also a premier profit sire rating an incredible 358 BPI(#3 BPI Daughter proven Sire, #2 Reliability Sire)! AltaROBLE is also the clear #1 TWI sire at an amazing 428 and when you add to this a #1 Survival ABV rating, breed leading Workability ratings, including 107 Likability; and it is easy to see why AltaROBLE is clearly the "go to" bull this Autumn.

AltaROBLE's A2A2 full brother, AltaRABO has also made exceptional gains as he adds more daughters globally. Now with over 300 milking daughters in Australia, AltaRABO is the #3 BPI bull with 300 or more milking daughters at 315 BPI. With extreme workability ratings (including an incredible 107 Likability) AltaRABO also excels for OType 107 and Mamm 110. AltaRABO is also an exceptional SCS improver (SCS 174), great component improver (57kg CFP with positive components) and a genuine CE Sire (CE102). Siring Jet black daughters with moderate frames, sloped rumps and breed leading udders, AltaRABO is an easy use sire this autumn.

**More information: [australia.altagenetics.com](http://australia.altagenetics.com)**



**Crackholm  
Altaroble  
Buckle.**



## Milk factories want components!

The modern day dairy farm is under more pressure than ever before, so tailoring your production to suit your payments is at the fore of all farmers across the country. In recent years we have seen a push to more payment on fat.

In April, MOOKIE received his first full Australia based proof with almost 400 daughters spread across 40 herd testing herds. DataGene reports that the average MOOKIE daughter has more solids production than any other bull in the industry. The exciting part is the next bull is 30kg of solids behind him. Because only half the genetics come from the sire, we halve the breeding value, and to put this in real terms, the average MOOKIE daughter produces 15kg more than a cow by any other bull, or makes \$90 (15kg x \$6/kg/ms) more income.

MOOKIE was first released in Australia as a young bull based on his US proof only, and selected for his extreme production, fertility and medium-sized cows. This was the style of cow more and more Australian farmers were asking for, but in 2014 this was not the popular choice it has become today. His BPI at the time of his first genomic result in April 2015 was a common +169 BPI, but he has continued to climb each and every proof run.

It is no secret that 153 of his 395 milking daughters are in one herd (Moxey Farms). Some knockers seem to discount the bull because of this, but the DataGene evaluation is far more complex and accounts for these circumstances. "We are milking 138 Mookies today. They have been trouble free cows that go largely unnoticed, until you see them full of milk, they do have great udders," Rose Philipzen, Owner.

In today's fast-paced genomic world, with faster generation intervals than ever imagined, MOOKIE in his home country is among those few rare bulls over 100 lbs of Fat. His sire, Mogul, is no stranger to anyone who has opened a sire catalogue in recent years. Countless sons have come and gone in MOOKIE's time, but for Australian conditions he is Mogul's best son.

Mookie has crosses of the breed's elite, including bulls like Observer, Shottle, Goldwyn, Rudolph, Blackstar, Chief Mark, with many generations of his pedigree bred at Markwell a herd known for creating pedigrees full of fat and fertility.

**More information: [wwwsaustralia.com](http://wwwsaustralia.com)**



**Fertile-Ridge  
Mookie  
8386.**



## VH SPARKY strong allover profile on BPI in Australia

High production of solids along with excellent hoof health, are the unique trademark of VH Sparky.

VH Sparky is strong on the BPI ranking with \$319. The fabulous combination of high production and outstanding health is not easy to find. With a Nordic Total Merit (NTM) of +23, VH Sparky (VH Suarez x VH Salomon x T Funkis) has an unusual complete profile. VH Sparky defines perfectly the saying: "excellent health and high production is possible".

He has an outstanding production profile with 113, Protein percentage 116 and Fat percentage 113. On the other hand, he is a champion for hoof health 122 which is connected to an exceptional Longevity 109 and daughter fertility 113.

The balanced breeding values are also excellent in regard to the conformation traits, VH Sparky daughters have well attached udders with 117. VH Sparky has 1390 daughters and was bred at the herd of Flemming Petersen, in Ribe Denmark.

VH Sparky's mother is currently pregnant with her seventh calf and is part of the herd of Flemming Petersen dairy farm. A daughter of a VH Salomon, this is the kind of cow that a dairyman would love to have, she is healthy and productive.

**More information: [vikinggenetics.com.au](http://vikinggenetics.com.au)**



**Viking VH  
Sparky (VH  
Suarez)**





## Mirand PP – international profile sire

Mirand PP (Zipit x Kingboy) continues to consolidate as an international profile sire with exceptionally high demand and orders from international customers. The opportunity that this Australian-based Holstein contributes to international contacts in relationships for Australian genetics cannot be discounted. His High Type and Mammary combined with Fertility, production and the bonus of Polled and A2 has established him as a nominated Sire of Sons by some of the bull studs in North America and Europe.

The Australian opportunity is also apparent with the high demand by breeders in Australia being supported by the excellent collections of Mirand. Outstanding results are being seen based on high conception rates for embryo and IVF programs utilising both sexed and conventional semen. Currently Mirand is in high demand for fresh sexed semen programs.

Mirand is backed by the strong Marshmellow cow family with his dam being a favourite Kingboy daughter Calbrett Kingboy Miranda-P, who is widely recognised through her promotion as one of Kingboy's favourite early milking daughters.

Sire: Ocd Eraser Zipit-P-ET

Dam: Calbrett Kingboy Miranda P VG88

MGS: Morningview Mcc Kingboy-ET

MGD: Snowbiz Ladd P Marshmellow

MGGS: Tiger-Lily Ladd P-Red-ET PO

MGGD: Venture Snow Muse P VG86 2YRS

## Andreas P – new release polled carrier

TLGANDREAS - P (Yoda x Business Plan) offers a next generation sire with excellent genetic data from both the Australian and US genomic data evaluations. The A2/A2 TLGANDREAS - P offers a new reference sire for the ongoing development of polled genetic here in Australia. As an outcross poll carrier, with strong type and mammary values, excellent fertility and longevity and strong calving ease and reduced gestation length. Sire: Swissbec Yoda-P

Dam: Stantons Business Appear-ET VG86 2YRS

MGS: Stantons Business Plan-ET

MGD: Stantons Cameo Appearance VG85 2YRS

MGGS: Boldi V S G Anton VG-85

MGGD: Stantons Shamrock Coco Chanel VG-87

**More information: [tlg.com.au](http://tlg.com.au)**



**Calbrett Kingboy  
Miranda P.**



**AGRI-GENE**

## New release French sire

Highlights from the Australian April 2019 ABV have included the performance of new release sire French sire NACASH. He is not only prominent in Australia for BPI but also the highest European bull on the USA list for TPI at +2855 and also No.1 in Italy.

With his global appeal he will be a much sought after sire that will be in high demand worldwide as an elite flush sire.

Another high TPI bull who has been performing incredibly well on the Australian BPI system is CHAIRMAN.

CHAIRMAN himself sits high amongst the top BPI sires at +346, however it is the performance of his Australian born daughters that is creating all the excitement. Currently from all the Australian heifers born in 2018 and 2019, CHAIRMAN daughters make up 7 of the top 15 heifers for high BPIg.

A couple of polled German bulls round out Agri-Gene's top 5 BPI sires. They are new release sire ADLON-P who is the leading polled sire in Germany and No.2 for ISU in France and POINT-P who would rank amongst the highest polled and BPI sires in the breed at +323 BPI.

From the USA, Agri-Gene's highest new release TPI sire is St Gen R -Haze RAPID at +2850 TPI with over +3 for type and excellent health traits.

Other new released high TPI sires include TJR Dynamo PANTHER and Mr Rubicon NICHE who are both over +2 for type with moderate stature, ample strength and good fertility and health traits.

It is no coincidence that all 3 of these new TPI sires are either direct sons or grandsons of RUBICON.

RUBICON is having an enormous influence over modern Holstein pedigrees where breeders are seeking higher fertility genetics that are functional, profitable and will promote longevity in their herds.



**NACASH**

# Wood Lawn Holsteins



**Lawrie and Lynne Flanagan (Wood Lawn), Katunga, NSW**

**Master Breeders 2018 (for cows bred 1978-1997)**

**Information supplied by Lawrie Flanagan**

Lawrie registered the Wood Lawn prefix in 1969. At the time, he was farming with his parents on an irrigated, 60-hectare block, milking 100 commercial Holsteins in Girgarre, Northern Victoria. His more noted purchases came from Elmsdale, Claris Vale, Ravenswood, Glenorma and Greendale studs. In 1978 Lawrie and his wife Lynne, purchased the entire Wood Lawn herd which they continued to develop.

By July 1980 they bought their own farm, using the sale of 50 cows as a deposit. So began the Flanagans' love of marketing Holsteins and using the proceeds to develop their business. Their new base was another irrigated block (30 ha) at Katandra 20 kilometres north of Shepparton.

Lawrie and Lynne and their young family continued developing the Wood Lawn prefix entering local shows, calf days and sales. Lawrie became a Northern delegate to Victorian Branch in 1982 and progressed

## Farm facts

*Farm size: 400 ha*

*Herd size: 705 milkers*

*Calving pattern: Daily*

*Herd production: 9,266 litres, F 301 kg, P 324 kg*

*Females bred: 861*

*EX: 9F 1M*

*VG: 190F 1M*

*SBC: 47*

*STP: 13*

*Production awards: 38*

*Lifetime production awards: 25*

*Points required: 861*

*Points earned: 1,143*



Lynne and Lawrie Flanagan.

to Federal Delegate in 1986. In 1983, Lawrie started a 20-year stint on the Victorian Judges Panel and judged at many feature shows throughout Victoria, NSW, SA, WA and Tasmania.

In 1986, the Flanagans sold the Katandra farm moving north to a larger 40 ha property at Katunga with more secure irrigation supply from the Hume Dam and abundant underground water.

The Flanagans moved again 1994 to a 200-ha irrigation property at Finley, NSW. This move was only possible as two of their sons left school shortly after and have had a major contribution in further developing Wood Lawn. In 2002 Wood Lawn purchased 200-ha neighbouring block that they had been leasing. A 50-stand rotary dairy was built in 2001 to accommodate the larger herd. Currently 700 cows are milked in the rotary and feed a Total Mixed Ration (TMR) producing 7 million litres annually.

**Our herd:** During the '80s, Wood Lawn started using ET. This helped develop many cow families including the Hazels, Mondas, Playgirls and Noellas. In September 1986 Wood Lawn Scottish Hazel 6th gave 30 eggs in one flush. This resulted in 10 heifer calves sired by Cal Clark Board Chairman. Wood Lawn Scottish Hazel 6th is currently an 11 Star Brood Cow and certainly left her mark at Wood Lawn.

The introduction of the Felicity bloodlines at Wood Lawn had a significant impact. In 1992 Wood Lawn was part of the syndicate that purchased Rockwood Park Starbuck Wendy EX for \$18,000. She was a great granddaughter of the famous Australian bred Rockwood Park Achilles Felicity, a 19 Star Brood Cow. Wendy went on to be a Champion Dairy Cow All Breeds in 1994 and left her mark on the Holstein breed. In January 1993 Rockwood Park Black Coconut was purchased as a calf for \$7,000. She is a daughter of Rockwood Park Warden Cretonne, a 6 Star Brood Cow another great granddaughter of Felicity. Coconut featured strongly at many major shows throughout Australia including 1998 Sydney Royal where she was Honourable



From the Flanagan family album: Marcus, Michelle, Nick, Sarah and Scott in 1998.

*Continued next page*



Continued from previous page

Mention Holstein Cow and lead cow in the winning Pen of 5 Interbreed Group. Coconut has become a 7 Star Brood Cow and has made a significant impact on the Wood Lawn breeding program. Other Felicitys purchased were Rockwood Park Fobes Criss VG87, an 8 Star Brood Cow, who won an extremely strong Best Udder Class at Shepparton National in 1992 under Kevin Hayes and Champion Cow at Numurkah Feature Show 1992. Her most notable daughter is Wood Lawn Blackstar Phobes ET EX-2E, who produced 98,138 litres lifetime.

The Delight family were very prominent. They descended from a line purchased at the Dumboy Dispersal in 1995. Tab Delight's grand Daughter, Woodlawn Halsall Delight EX-90-2E, is arguably the best cow bred at Woodlawn. Her progeny include a Goldwyn daughter Woodlawn Gold Delight 3901 VG88, a 7 Star Brood Cow who won her class at IDW. Halsall Delight was 2nd in milk at IDW twice to the eventual Senior Champion Cow.

Marketing has always been a passion at Wood Lawn and many animals have sold at various multi-vendor sales. Three reduction sales were held on the property.

The most high-profile of these in May 2011 was marketed as 'Simply the Best' with 85 head for auction and featured members of the Felicity line. The top price of the sale was Wood Lawn Ladino Liberty (Imp ET) for \$16,000. She was sold to Kevin and Sharon Whatman and family. The sale averaged \$4,200 and was one of Wood Lawn highlights.

**Bulls:** We have always used what we consider to be the best sires over the years including Raider, Ladino, Cal Clark Board Chairman, Rich Ro Mark Sam, Blackstar, Shottle, Guthrie, McCutchen and Doorman.

**Career highlights:** It has been a very interesting and rewarding lifetime in Holsteins with many hard times and disappointments. We have always evolved to allow ourselves to remain part of a viable successful business. Some innovations include embryo transfer, genomics, heat monitors, and a 700 cow automatically flushed concrete feedpad.

We enjoy travelling overseas and locally as a wonderful way to motivate ourselves and learn. Lynne and I get immense satisfaction from breeding a top herd of registered Holsteins which also has provided a business for two of our sons to be involved in.

Our move to Finley in 1994 would not have been as successful without their commitment and dedication. Nicholas has real ability and passion to breed quality Holsteins and Marcus the ability to grow fodder and feed cows to their full potential which is quite outstanding.

**Industry future:** The water politics and severe drought are a major concern, especially in Northern Victoria and South West NSW. However, at the time of writing, rain is pouring so hopefully this is the turning point for this season that we so desperately need!

**Advice to new dairy farmers:** Always spend more time listening than speaking, enjoy other people's success, never be afraid of hard work and never forget where you came from. HJ



# Sharett Park Holsteins

## Farm facts

**Farm size:** 440 ha  
**Herd size:** 300 milkers year round  
**Calving pattern:** Year round  
**Herd production:** 10,500 l  
**Females bred:** 1,951  
**Production awards:** 1024  
**Lifetime production awards:** 26  
**Points required:** 1,951  
**Points earned:** 2,022

**Graeme and Heather Spinner (Sharett Park), Berrigan, NSW**  
**Master Breeders 2018**

## Information supplied by Heather Spinner

**The Farm:** We are a family farm with Graeme, me and one of two sons, Shane, plus a full time employee. Graeme moved into dairy as a young adult, and I grew up on a Jersey stud at Pakenham Upper, Victoria. In 1973 we bought our farm in Berrigan. The first job was to convert the walk through to a 10-unit herringbone; this stayed till 2001 when we moved to a rotary. The extra space allowed us to move to bail feeding from fully pasture based. In 2007, prompted by the drought, we purchased a mixer wagon and moved to Total Mixed Rations to carry us through the summer autumn period. Our feed consultant, Dan Huggins, helped us get the best from our herd. We joined Holstein Australia in 1993 when we were ready to move our herd through the appendix system. In the early days we used bulls from Colin Gardner's Taraglen herd, which laid the foundation of our herd. We also bought some from RAB at Tabletop. One of the most influential bulls from RAB was Elite Celsius Capri 2<sup>nd</sup> who features somewhere in the pedigrees of most of our high production cows. Another notable bull was Keylargo out of Barclay Donor Carly who has boosted the components. We try to source bulls from the best cow families. Today most of the herd is fully registered. Our prefix Sharett Park is from our sons' names, Shane and Brett.

**Breeding goals:** We aim to breed high producing elite\* cows that withstand the test of time. We currently have 184 elite cows, of which 32 are 2-year-old heifers, with five of those producing over 1,000kg of solids and 94 cows that have also produced over 1,000kg.

**Useful breeding tools:** Herd recording, pregnancy testing at the same time, and the AFI heat detection system (pedometers) are things I find most helpful. On the rare occasions when we use AI, we are guided by Max Harde's expertise. Our sires are selected from top cow families by bulls whose blood is not already in our herd. It is satisfying to see the heifers that you have bred reach their full potential.

**Animals you bred that you are proud of:** Olive Agassi, sired by Hillview Park Agassi, a Grand Slam son purchased from McPhee's Hillview Park stud. She produced 1246, 1466 and 1279 kgs of solids in 305 days for 3 years in a row. Largo Pearl, by Keylargo, who produced 1536 kg of solids and 16,761 litres on her second lactation.

Natalia Lulu 2E, by our own Nash, a Shottle son, is a standout cow having been Australia's highest-producing active registered cow (volume) in June 2018. She produced 21,229 litres and 1133 kgs of solids in 305 days on her 3<sup>rd</sup> lactation. Sharett Park Nash has sired some very good high producing cows in our herd.

**Cow families that are important in your herd:** The Lulus, Lucys and Pearls are consistently amongst the highest producing and are generally trouble-free cows. We purchased Taraglen Valiant Lucy from Colin Gardner in 1993 and all our Lucys are her descendants. The Lulus came from Max Harges' Ladino Park herd. The purchase of them is by far the best decision we ever made. Jammer Lulu, the dam of Natalia Lulu, was the most likable cow. She was injured and 'retired' 175 days into her 5<sup>th</sup> lactation and had already produced 13,234 litres that year. She went on to rear seven calves, all at once, and another four after they were weaned. Our Hayley family also features prominently in the Production awards that we have accumulated.

**Bulls you are using now:** Currently our heifers are in calf to Ludo, out of Jammer Lulu by an Igniter son, and Pooley Bridge Kaygold. Lulu sons and a bull out of Lexi Rae from Gloryland are the main herd bulls along with others purchased from top cow families. We rotate about six bulls and each bull is with the herd for about four weeks at a time, with entry and exit dates carefully recorded.

**Dairying highlights:** One highlight was when Jammer Lulu won the 3-year old section of the local On Farm Challenge in 2013 and the other is receiving this Master Breeder Award, which was a surprise.

**Future plans:** There might not be a future if the water situation doesn't change in the Riverina, so we'll just try to keep going and hope things improve.



ABOVE: Natalia Lulu. BELOW: The matriarch of the Lulus, Crew Lulu, aged 13 years.



**How do you see the future of dairy farming?** Given the rate at which dairy farmers are currently exiting the industry, the future looks a bit grim. HJ

*\* Holstein Australia's Elite Production Award recognises production in a single 305-day lactation with a minimum of 3.8% fat and 3.2% protein AND a combination of 450 kg fat and 365 kg protein.*







## Stars at the SA Calf Day

Young Holstein enthusiasts had a great time at the 39th All Breeds Calf and Handlers Day, held at Murray Bridge in April.





# Promenade Genetics presents

## The Queensland Cow of the Year 2018



### Promenade Dorcy Toni 2 - ET

Myway Lauthor Toni VG 87  
Eclipse Damion I Toni VG 89  
1st 3-4 Yrs in Milk  
Member of Winning Pen of Three  
Cows Malanda Show 2018



### Eclipse Damion I Toni - ET VG 89 ExMS

Windy Vale Inquirer Tiffy - ET Ex -92-4E  
Windy Vale Storm Toni Ex90  
Member of Winning Pen of Three Cows  
Malanda Show 2018



### Myway Dundee Jackie VG 85

Ourway Talent Jackie 169 VG 89 ExMS  
Ourway James Jackie 42 Ex 90  
Elite Leadman Jackie Ex 3E  
1st 4-5 Yrs in Milk - Best Udder - Reserve Champion Cow  
Member of Winning Pen of Three Cows  
Malanda Show 2018



### Ourway Stanley Cup Fairy Ex90 Ex93MS

Ourway Talent Fairy 97 VG 89 ExMS  
Ourway Lieutenant Fairy 52 VG 89  
2nd 4-5yrs in Milk - Reserve Best Udder  
Reserve Champion Cow Malanda Show 2017

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# National youth camp

BY MANDI PACITTI, MISTY BRAE,  
FLEURIEU & CENTRAL SA

**A**fter a two-year absence, Holstein Australia took the leadership to re-establish the youth camp concept, holding the 2019 National All Breeds Dairy Youth Camp on 12-15 April Sale, Victoria.

Participants from NSW, Victoria, Tasmania and New Zealand descended on the home of Glomar Holsteins for the camp. The traditional components of show animal preparation, handling and judging were complemented presentations on cow conformation, animal welfare and policy, bull selection, fertility, career pathways and a hands-on cheese making demonstration.

Participants also visited the McRae family's property where they inspected the extensive calf rearing facility and gained an understanding of the process of pasture and soil monitoring coupled with strategic fertiliser applications to fully utilise home-grown fodder.

Future camps are likely to return to the traditional January timeslot.

Special thanks to camp sponsors STgenetics, Dairy Australia, WFI, Elders, Genetics Australia, ABS, World Wide Sires, AgriGene, Holstein Australia and the Johnston family. **HJ**

**Top right: NDYC Award winners:** Mandy Pacitti, Ella Young (Best overall clipper), Cam Bawden, Patrick Anderson (Team Player Award), Mal Nikora from ST Genetics, Alice Guye (Encouragement Award), Justin Johnston.

**Middle:** Back row: Cam Bawden, Mal Nikora, Oakley Henry, Patrick Anderson. Middle row: Justin Johnston, Gino & Mandy Pacitti. Front row: Anna Hamilton, Zoe Botha, Ella Young & Alice Guye.

**Bottom:** Calf Rearing Facilities at Stuart & Nita McRae's. Mal Nikora, Anna Hamilton, Ella Young, Oakley Henry, Zoe Botha, Alice Guye, Patrick Anderson with Nita McRae.







2019 WAYCHC participants and volunteers.

## Young handlers gather in WA

The 15th Annual WA Youth Cattle Handlers Camp was held on 29-31 March at the Brunswick Showgrounds, accompanied by absolute magnificent weather.

One hundred keen young dairy and beef cattle enthusiasts from a range of backgrounds took part in a three-day action packed camp. This year the committee welcomed dairy over-judge Mal Nikora, ST Genetics Australia to pass on his skills and knowledge to the next generation, ably assisted by many of the camps 50-odd volunteers. Topics covered throughout the duration of the camp included parading, judging, clipping, public speaking, biosecurity, marketing and animal health.



The 2019 WAYCHC Highest Dairy Achiever recipient, Murray Findlay, Harvey Agricultural College, with WAYCHC Chairperson Jessica Andony.

The WAYCHC relies heavily on the support and sponsorship from the cattle industry and community to put on this event, and this year we had Farmwest come onboard as the Diamond Sponsor. A huge thank you to Farmwest, and all the sponsors, helpers, judges, supporters and cattle breeders involved in the camp, who volunteer their time, knowledge and equipment.

HJ

# nzholstein

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# Natural long life milk

**T**he Naturo company, based in Coolumb, Queensland, has developed a world-first milk processing technology which gives fresh, chilled milk a shelf life of at least 60 days without additives or preservatives. Unlike pasteurisation, the process does not involve heat treatment. The company claims the process produces "100% natural fresh milk" that retains its natural colour and tastes like it has come straight from the cow.

The technology has been independently validated to kill more pathogens than pasteurisation. Naturo says it is the only known method that kills *Bacillus cereus*, a common pathogen in milk. The company claims its product is nutritionally superior as the process retains higher levels of vitamins B2 and B12 which are otherwise destroyed by pasteurisation.

With the process approved by Dairy Food Safety Victoria, the company expects the technology to be a game-changer, opening up opportunities for fresh milk to be shipped, rather than flown, to export markets such as Japan, China, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia.

The technology was developed by Naturo founder and CEO Jeff Hastings and agricultural engineer with more than 30 years' experience.

The company is set to scale up the



Agricultural engineer Jeff Hastings is Naturo founder and CEO.

technology, having received a grant from the Queensland Government and is seeking investment in a pilot plant capable of producing 10 million litres of milk a year.

## Have your say about dairy's future

If you missed out on local Australian Dairy Plan workshops held in May and June, you can still have your say through the online discussion forum.

The Australian Dairy Plan aims to rally the industry to set a clear vision and purpose for the next five years and beyond. It will provide a blueprint for the industry to

operate, which delivers to a collective strategy.

The development of the Australian Dairy Plan is being led by Dairy Australia, Australian Dairy Farmers, Australian Dairy Products Federation and Gardiner Dairy Foundation (the Partners).

Chaired by former Victorian Premier, John Brumby AO, the plan is undertaking nationwide consultation to discuss what is needed to create a more profitable, confident and united industry. Discussions are underpinned by the latest Situation and Outlook statement, which is available on the web.

*More information:* [www.dairyplan.com.au](http://www.dairyplan.com.au)

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Editorial contributions: Thursday 25 July  
(e-mailed to [journal@holstein.com.au](mailto:journal@holstein.com.au) or phone 0419 349 244)



ST GEN DIRECTOR CHAIRMAN-ET  
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THE

# CHAIRMAN

## OF THE BOARD DELIVERS



★ **CHAIRMAN** daughters are dominating the top BPIg heifer listings in Australia.

★ **CHAIRMAN** daughters currently make up 7 of the top 15 ranked for BPIg from all heifers born in 2018 & 2019.

MCD: Darrest Cardigan-ET VG80  
photo: Jeff Higgs



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# SEMEX 2019 HOLSTEIN AUTUMN PACK

## AVERAGES FOR THE PACK

Source: Source: CDCB-G & HAUSA-G 04-19, ABV(g) April 2019

SemenCode	NAME	Sire	Mgs	TPI	NM\$	PL	SCS	DPR	BPI	BetaCasein	RRP Exl. GST
0200H010777	WESTCOAST PERSEUS	PENMANSHIP	DOORMAN	2633	750	5.5	2.63	2.9	375	A2A2	\$35
0200H011078	PROGENESIS METHOD	GRANITE	PENMANSHIP	2648	755	5.1	2.75	3.5	324	A1A1	\$30
0200H011080	PROGENESIS HAPPYDAY	HARMONY	DENVER	2740	863	5.9	2.65	3.5	306	A2A2	\$32
0200H011242	PROGENESIS PAVAROTTI	FRAZZLED	SILVER	2702	843	5.4	2.72	1.0	310	A2A2	\$30

## GROUP AVERAGE

TPI	NM\$	Milklbs	Fatlbs	%Fat	Protein lbs	%Protein	PL	SCS	DPR	CE	PTAT	UDC	BPI
2681	803	1272	75	0.10	55	0.06	5.5	2.7	2.7	6.4	1.82	1.81	329

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