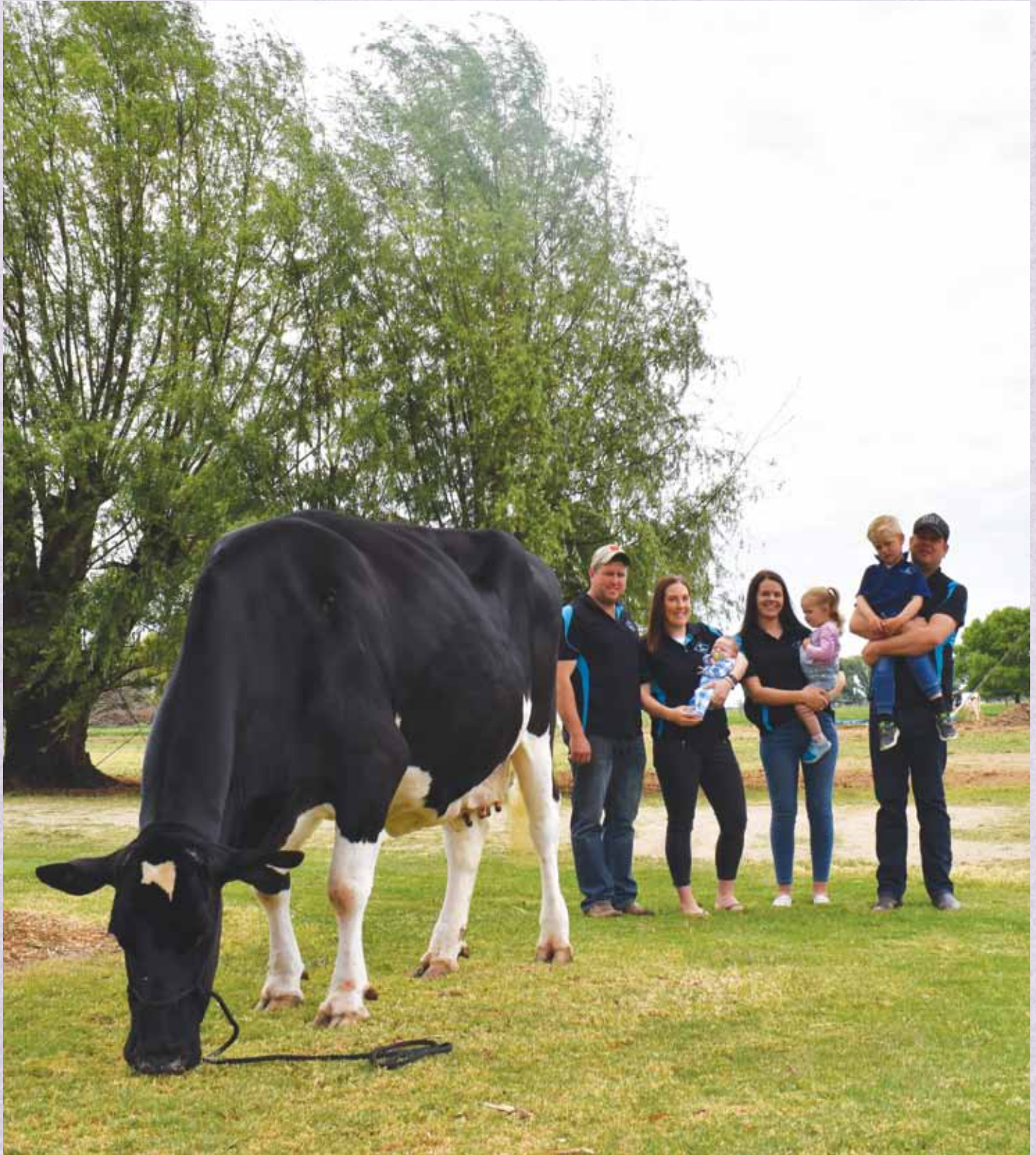


Holstein Journal

SUMMER 2019



**Holstein
Australia AGM**

**Annual Awards
Night**

**Competition
winners**

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WWS

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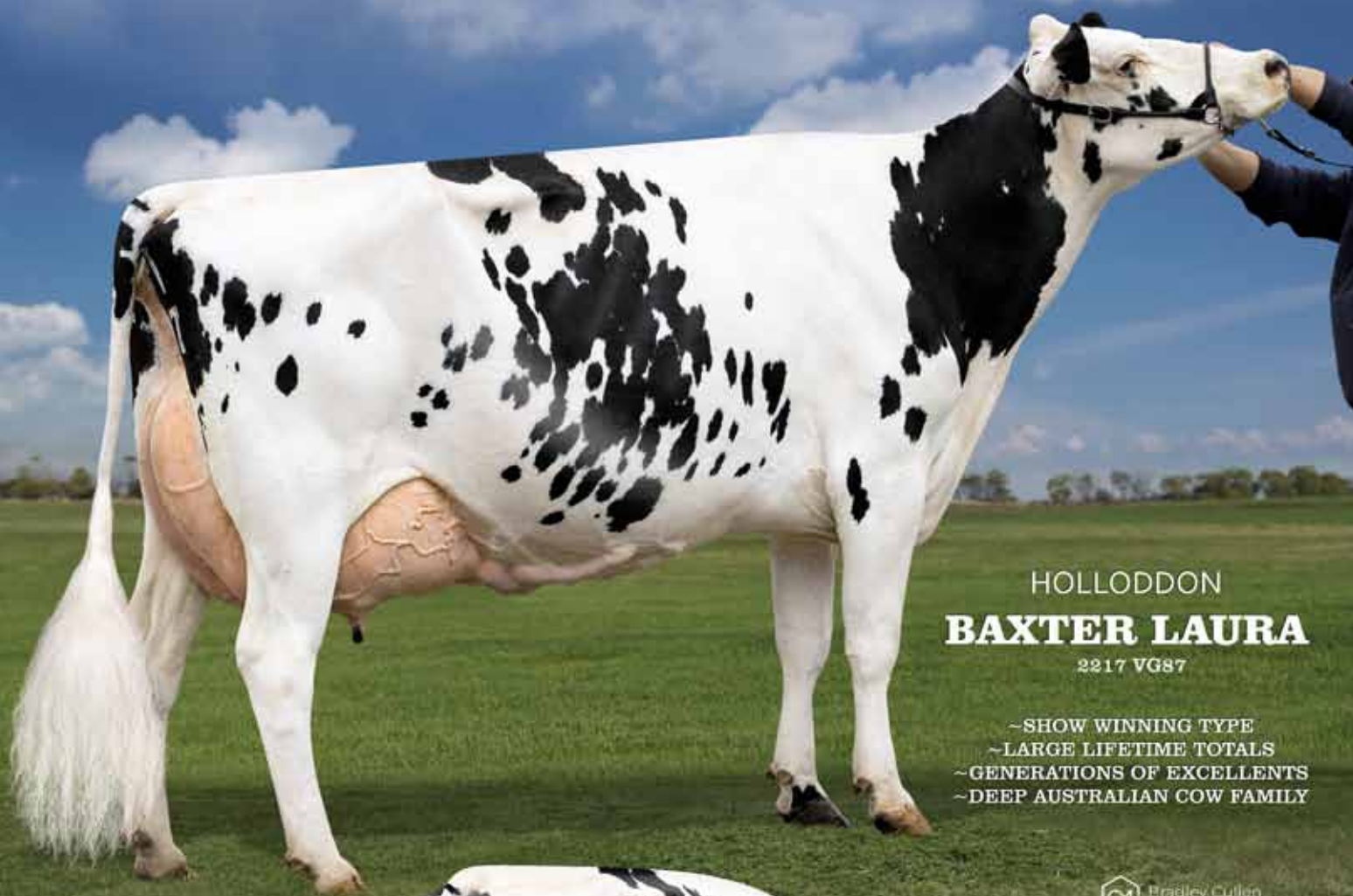
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COVER: 2019 Cow of the Year Orchard Vale Informer Tiffany EX-91, owned by Gorbrow and Glamorgan Holsteins. Pictured are Gordon family members, Glen and Genna (holding Jimmy) with Stacey (holding Maggie) and Drew (holding Darcy).

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MASTER BREEDER





Holstein Australia Board and Committee appointments announced

Gippsland gathering

More than 130 Holstein enthusiasts descended on Gippsland in September for Holstein Australia's Annual General Meeting, Annual Awards Night, the Online Showcase sale, a member forum and a series of associated meetings and finishing up with a tour of Phillip Island. Held at the RACV resort at Inverloch, the event was an opportunity to celebrate Holstein achievements, make decisions for the coming year and be updated on key Association developments. The following pages report on some of the highlights.

AGM

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was attended by 40 members and guests, with reports from the President, Finance Committee and Breed Development and Conformation Committee (BDCC) and CEO. See pages 6 and 7 for abridged reports from the President and BDCC.

Board

Holstein Australia is governed by a board of five directors, including the President and Vice President. Directors serve 3-year terms which expire by rotation to provide continuity over time. Here is a summary of this year's election results.

Phillip Hall (Roblynne, Harvey WA) was appointed to the board for a three-year term. He replaced David Johnston who retired. David had served an aggregate of 12 years on the Board and was not eligible for re-election.

Garry Carpenter (Garerley, Tasmania) was re-elected for another three-year term and appointed to the vice president role.

Patrick Glass (Kerrick Park Holsteins, NE Victoria), was reappointed as Federal President for a third 12-month term.

BDCC

The Breed Development and Conformation Committee (BDCC) is responsible for setting direction for the present and future production and functional characteristics of the Holstein breed in Australia. This is achieved by developing and implementing policies and procedures that maintain the breed's



The 2019/20 board of Holstein Australia: Patrick Glass, Jennie Grey, Garry Carpenter, Philip Hall, Gino Pacitti.

integrity through the classification.

Committee members serve three-year terms which expire by rotation to provide continuity. Geoff Horrocks (Foxleigh, North Victoria) and Wes Brown (Juleanwes, Tamworth NSW) were both re-elected to BDCC for another term.

Strategic Directions Committee

Toria Patten of Ryanna Holsteins, Lardner, Victoria, takes up one of the three Non-regional representative positions on the Association's Strategic Directions Committee. Toria will be well known to HA members throughout Gippsland and more recently supporting the West Gippsland Sub-Branch.



New frontiers for registered cattle sales

Holstein Australia ventured into new territory with an online sale timed around this annual general meeting and Annual Awards night.

Holstein Australia's first Online Showcase Sale featured 17 premium, registered Holsteins with top price of \$8,000 for Winaview Superhero Alicia 1372, a six month old heifer with a BPI of 329.

Second top price of \$6,000 went to Gorburo Ramuno Tiffany-ET, a yearling heifer with a BPI of 289, whose grand-dam, Orchard Vale Tiffany Informer, was awarded 2019 Holstein Australia Cow of the Year at the Annual Awards Dinner. The sale averaged \$3,533 and raised more than \$8,500 for Holstein Youth programs thanks to donations from Australian genetics companies.

The sale was live-streamed around Australia from the RACV Inverloch Resort with considerable interest from online buyers as well as those in the room.

CEO Graeme Gillan said the sale attracted a diverse range of high-quality animals, which resulted in a lot of bidding and a successful sale for members who would otherwise be too far away to attend.

"Buyers had the assurance that only the best premium, registered Holsteins were offered while sellers had access to a sales platform supported by the resources of Holstein Australia," Graeme said.

"We have some ideas for improvement but it's definitely a format we'll be looking to repeat," he said.

Head to the West in 2020

Next year's AGM will be held on 3 September in Bunbury, in conjunction with FarmWest Discovery Day.

President's Report 2018/19

BY PATRICK GLASS

For Holstein Australia, 2018/19 has been very successful. Is this at odds with the general dairy industry? I would say yes it is. Perhaps the difference represents the intangible value of registered Holsteins that, at times, we find difficult to articulate! Emerging from a challenging 2017/18, our early focus was to build on the changes already implemented and rebuild the financial position of the Association. With the substantial input of export revenue and expense reductions we have achieved a result above expectations. This is a testament to our members, the Board and staff who have all worked towards the best outcome for the breed.

When we review the level of member service activity we do see a decline, which is a challenge for us.

Is the decline a reflection of the overall industry or is our 'heartland' of family-owned farm businesses declining at a greater rate than the broader industry? It is too early to accurately measure but once we understand fully the new environment dairy is operating under, it will be important for Holstein Australia to be conversant on the changing industry demographics so we can plan our future.

Herd Book

Some will argue the concept of a Herd Book may seem somewhat old fashioned with technologies such as genomics superseding the applicability. This is far from the truth as accuracy of pedigree is still the most fundamental aspect of genetic improvement.

From 1 July 2019 Holstein Australia implemented two changes towards keeping the Herd Book as the most accurate source of pedigree information for the Holstein breed in Australia.

First, compulsory genomic testing of males as a prerequisite for registration and secondly the introduction of scaled fees to encourage members to register as soon as possible.

As the year progresses and in future,



members and non-members buying registered Holstein bulls will know the exact pedigree of the bull, as far as best science allows, adding greater integrity to every female in the Herd Book.

Continuing the theme of Herd Book and then adding Holstein services, we have seen some tremendous sale results for members compared to the general sales of non-registered Holsteins, and even more so for recorded Holsteins over all other breeds and cross breeds.

The extra margin from registered animals reflects the effort put into their breeding programs over a number of years and in some cases over generations. In some instances, these sales clearly demonstrate the financial difference between registered and non-registered Holsteins. Registration, classification, participation at shows and competitions coupled with herd testing make a real and tangible difference, with the market being the true indicator.

Communications and marketing

This leads me into another important focus for the association: Communications and Marketing.

In addition to the Journal, during 2018/19 Holstein has undertaken a range of initiatives including a 12-month marketing campaign in *Dairy News Australia*; more engagement with social media, which has seen considerable growth across a number of channels; and a number of initiatives in a range of agricultural publications highlighting our activities, particularly involving Youth.

Another activity has been working with members to support their marketing efforts leading up to sales and to date the feedback has been very positive.

Finally, I would like to touch on internal communications, that is between administration, sub-branches and members. Some progress has been made to improve the flow of information throughout the member community but we realise that there is much more to do.

Governance

It is now just over two years since the implementation of the current governance structure and it is fair to say there are aspects working well and some not working as well as we would like.

Sadly, the industry continues to shrink, which reinforces the approach taken

during the Governance structure to remove administrative layers out of the Association. We need to ensure that we continue to reshape the organisation and that we are always inclusive of our members. There will be more to report on this important topic during the year.

We fully appreciate that Board and Committee positions are voluntary and do affect members' time and ultimately their farm businesses. Holstein Australia has been built on decades of voluntary participation and today this is just as important as it was in the past. I urge any member who believes passionately enough in the future of the Association and the direction of the breed to consider putting their hand up in some capacity; I assure you it is most rewarding.

Thank you to all the members involved at Sub-branch level for their invaluable contribution at grass roots level. Our Sub-branches are the bedrock of the association and the lifeblood of our Holstein community.

Summary

As I conclude my second term as President I would like to recognise the services of a Past President and now departing Director, David Johnston (Jonno) who has served as a Director for 12 years and for 40 plus years has contributed to the fabric of the Association. Thank you also to Glenyce as without her unwavering support I doubt David would have been able to spend so much time away from the farm.

I also thank my fellow Directors who provide tremendous support and importantly who ensure there is robust discussion during all Board meetings.

To the members of the SDC and BDCC, many thanks for your valuable contribution to the direction of the Association and the Holstein cow.

To management and staff, on behalf of all members, thank you. In a very unobtrusive way, you go about your business working on our behalf to deliver the services that allow the membership to function as it should.

Last but by no means least thanks Kerrie. The support from you and the family allow me to contribute in the way that I have.

Finally, thank you to members for allowing me to serve them as their President, an honour and privilege.

HJ

Breed Development and Conformation Committee Report 2018/19

BY JENNIE GRAY, BDCC CHAIR

This year I would like to focus on four areas: committee, competitions, breed development and classification.

Committee

The Committee was honoured to continue to have the services of Dr Mary Abdelsayed as a member during the past year. Dr Abdelsayed, a geneticist with DataGene, has made a valuable contribution to our discussions throughout the year. Mary is now on maternity leave.

Competitions

One of the BDCC's tasks is overseeing two of the Association's major competitions: the Cow of the Year and the All Australian.

For the Cow of the Year judging, the Committee was joined by member judge Declan Patten and industry judge Peter Dixon from Semex to judge the strong field of entrants.

Thank you to the members who continue to support the Cow of the Year competition. While the number of entries can always be higher, your entries enable the competition to continue.

The All Australian finalists for this year's competition were selected by Lisa McKay, David Peglar and Wes Brown. This year was David's first and Wes's last year as judge of the All Australian. No doubt Wes like all past judges will miss his time pouring over photos and the robust discussions among the three judges.

The competition continues to be the premier photographic competition in Australia. On behalf of the Committee, I thank the judges for taking the time to help shine a spotlight on the best Holsteins in Australia.

The committee decided during the year to encourage member participation in the competition by allowing all animals from shows with Holstein classes to be eligible for the All Australian competition, provided the judge on the day is a member of the National Judges panel.



The 2019-20 BDCC: Wes Brown, Geoff Horrocks, Jennie Grey, Lynette Greenwood and Brett Cirillo. BDCC member Marcus Young was absent.

To achieve that meant removing All Australian status from all shows across Australia, which was not taken lightly.

The change required a small amendment to the existing bylaw and that change was approved before the start of the 2019/20 competition year.

Animal identification

Our membership believes more could be done to improve the practices around proper identification of registered Holsteins for showing and sale. This would require more co-operation from our members and more enforcement from the Association.

Proper identification is the single biggest complaint we receive from both members and non-members. Vendors must be sure that all registration certificates have either two physical identifiers on the certificate or one physical identifier and a photo. We as vendors must take responsibility for our animals and standards.

The same applies for the show ring; it is up to the member to provide the proper matching ID prior to exhibition. I share the frustration of inspectors who can't do their job because the members "has forgotten the certificate"; the ear tag has been removed or there is no photo attached or a number of other reasons.

This does not have to be a complex issue and the BDCC is happy to receive feedback at any time.

Production award benchmarks

The benchmarks used in our production awards can sometimes be seen as being "maybe too high or maybe too low". Production depends on seasonal

influences, and feeding and management systems. The BDCC is mindful of these vagaries and with this in mind reviewed the production award benchmarks this year. The committee concluded that the current benchmarks for production adequately reflected output and believed an adjustment would dilute the production levels required to achieve these illustrious awards.

Classification

Our multi-breed classification system continues with HA classifying multiple dairy breeds, Dexters and dairy goats. Generally speaking, the feedback from the other breeds is positive which is a pat on the back for our classifiers and a testament to the confidence breeders have in the classification system.

We also continue to hold classification workshops with several of the breed societies and where possible look forward to these as annual events.

The Committee has been in the field looking at the work of classifiers and is satisfied with the quality and consistency of the work. Our classifiers are human after all and never the less must be treated like professionals even if members don't agree with their opinions.

In closing, I would like to thank my fellow Committee members for their hard work and dedication during the past 12 months. I would also like to acknowledge the commitment of our classification team to the improvement of the breed.

As always I would like to conclude with my special thanks to all those members who allow us to train on your farms or kept animals back for monitoring.

HJ



Holstein Australia's Annual Awards night is an opportunity to celebrate the members' achievements, both through the cows they've bred and their contributions to the association. HA relies on its members from *all* levels to help organise events, attract and retain members and run the association. Here are the highlights from this year's service awards.

Distinguished Service Award

Daniel Holmes, pictured, Arabella Holsteins, Darling Downs, received a Distinguished Service Award this year.



The award recognises members who have given valuable service, time and effort to the association over an extended period. It is approved by the board, based on nominations from grassroots members.

Daniel has held various positions at Sub-branch, State and Federal level over many years. He is respected for his high standards, credibility and integrity whether it's running his farming operations, a HA meeting or in the show ring. Notable contributions include leading the organisation of HA Centenary Celebrations at Toowoomba in 2014 and encouraging young and new members, through a variety of activities.

Association Representation:

- Darling Downs Sub-branch: President, Secretary, State delegate 2005–17
- Queensland: President: 2005–08, 2014–17
- Judging: State Judges panel. National Judges Panel
- National Advisory Council: 2003 Alternate, 2005–14, 2016–17

- National Delegate: 2006–11, 2014–17
- Breed Development & Conformation Committee: 2007–09

Association, Breed Promotion and Awards:

- Semex/HA On Farm Competition – local, regional and state and interstate over judge
- Federal Centenary event, Toowoomba Qld 2014: Head of state organising committee
- Darling Downs Sub-branch - Centenary Medallion recipient 2014
- Stockbreeders Council – Holstein delegate – Brisbane Royal show.

Service recognition

Special recognition of outstanding service was given to past president and departing director, David Johnston (Segenhoe Park Holsteins, Western Victoria), who retired from his role on the HA board having reached the 12 year maximum tenure.

For more than 40 years, David has fulfilled multiple Committee and Sub-Branch roles on behalf of the Association and its members.

HA President Patrick Glass thanked David for his contribution and integrity, always putting the needs of members and the breed before his own. "I would like to thank David, not just for his 12 years on the Board, but for what has been a lifetime working passionately on behalf of Holstein

Australia and its members. David has been a stalwart of the breed beginning in the Manning district of NSW and then in Victoria's west, and will be much missed around the Board room table by myself and my fellow directors," Patrick said.

Breed Legend Award

This year a new 'Breed Legends Award' was introduced to recognise bulls who make a significant contribution to the Australian Holstein breed across multiple generations. The inaugural Breed Legend Award went to Medallion (Bundalong Marks Medallion), who died in June this year, just shy of his 14th birthday. Bred by Bill and Brian Anderson and marketed by Genetics Australia, Medallion had an unparalleled ability to consistently produce cows suited to Australian conditions with great udders. Ten years after his initial proof, Medallion's ABV was still 110 for udders, 106 for type, 110 for body depth, 107 for chest width, 94 for stature, rear udder height 112, rear udder width 110, milking speed 102, temperament 103, likeability 104.

The Breed Legend award will not necessarily be given annually; only when a bull has achieved legendary status.

Some of Medallion's recent statistics:

- Units sold: 515,000
- Countries exported: USA, UK, Germany, Italy, Latin America, Sth Africa and New Zealand.
- Australian daughters: 12,044
- Australian herds: 920
- Herd with most daughters: 248
- Herd with 2nd most daughters: 144.

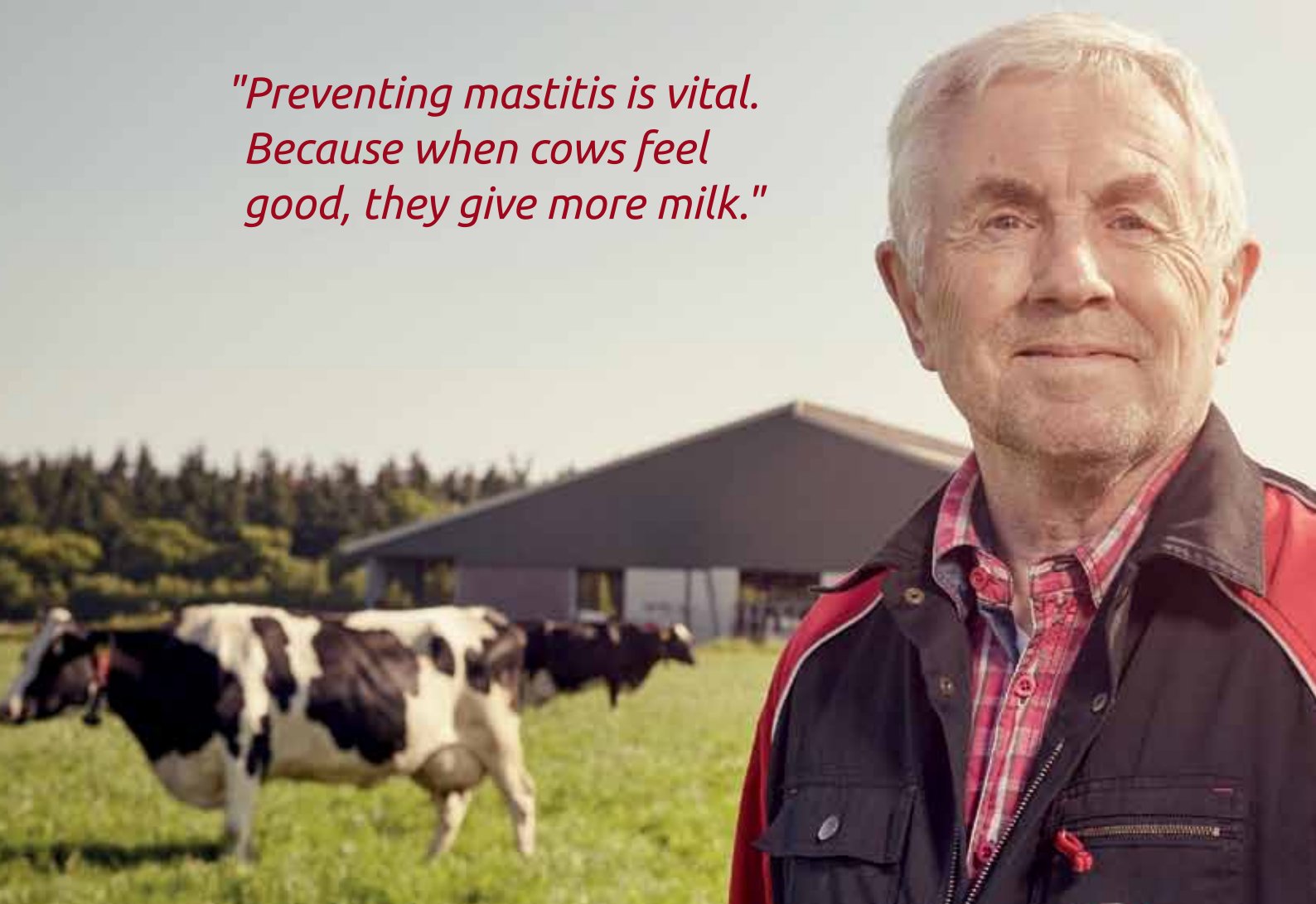


David Johnston was recognised for outstanding service to the Association; pictured with his wife Glenyce.



Brian and Bill Anderson (Bundalong Holsteins, Gippsland, Vic) and Anthony Shelley (Genetics Australia) with Medallion's Breed Legend Award.

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2019 Cow of the Year

Holstein Australia Cow of the Year 2019 - Orchard Vale Informer Tiffany EX

Bred by renowned Master Breeder, David Orchard of Orchard Vale Holsteins, Orchard Vale Informer Tiffany-ET EX-91-1E 21* 1xEP has been owned and managed by the Gordon family of Gorbro Holsteins in partnership with Marcus and Rebecca Rees, Glamorgan Holsteins, since her purchase as a calf at the Semex Spectacular Sale at International Dairy Week in 2006.

Since then, Tiffany has been a chart-topping index cow, a herd-leading production cow, a top level show cow, and a breed-leading brood cow. Now, she has been recognised by Holstein Australia as its Cow of the Year for 2019.

Holstein Australia's Breed Development and Classification Committee (BDCC) along with two guest judges - Declan Patten, Lightning Ridge Holsteins, and Semex Australia's Area Manager for Tasmania and Western Victoria, Peter Dickson - were given the arduous task of selecting the winner from a deserving list of finalists.

For Peter, it was Tiffany's influence as a brood cow that made her stand out.

"The performance of Tiffany's progeny is quite exceptional. Her daughters have consistently performed well, despite a large number having been sold and tested in different herds," Peter said.

"She also has progeny from a variety of matings, providing successful daughters from both high type and high indexing bulls. With so many progeny with big production records, show success and high breeding values, she will have a lasting influence on the breed in Australia."

Like Peter, the success of Tiffany's progeny and her overall contribution to the breed was the deciding factor for BDCC member and breeder, Brett Cirillo, Ambrewlea Holsteins.

"Tiffany's potential as a brood cow was identified early in her life, and she has made the most of her opportunities with

many daughters and granddaughters with high class scores and high ABVs spread across many herds," Brett said.

"For me Tiffany was what I was looking for. As the Cow of the Year she needed to be more than just a 'pretty' cow. Tiffany was a high performing cow with great production and conformation. But her success as a brood cow demonstrated her ability to contribute to the breed long term."

Premier Breeders

For the last 13 years, Tiffany has been based at Ross and Jeanette Gordon's 485-ha property, 10 km south of Cohuna in Victoria's North West. The Gordons' 600-cow Master Breeder herd is managed by brothers Drew and Glen Gordon, and their partners Stacey and Genna.

Showing cattle plays a major part of the business strategy, with Gorbro Holsteins named Premier Breeder at the 2019 NHD Victorian Winter Fair, and All Australian Premier Breeder in 2017.

"Showing is still very important to our

business," Glen says. "We select our show team on cows that are great paddock cows as well as great ring cows - the type of cows that breeders want look at and want to breed from. Whether it's Dairy Week or the local Cohuna show, we always make sure our show team is one that we can be proud to stand behind."

Working with some of the most recognised names in the Holstein world, Glen's travels have included time at Canada's Royal Winter Fair and Madison, as well as attending the Global Glamour Sale where the mighty KHW Regiment Apple-Red-ET EX-96 famously sold for one million dollars.

"I learned a lot about working with top end cows," Glen said. "How to feed them and manage them in the lead up to shows, how to prepare them for flushing, and how to make sure they reached their full potential."

Glen has applied the experience and knowledge gained from his travels to earn a reputation for impeccably presented high quality cattle. Gorbro Holsteins are



Holstein Australia Cow of the Year 2019 – Orchard Vale Informer Tiffany-ET EX-91-1E 21* 1xEP at 4 years.

now recognised as one of Australia's premier show herds, with their show success driving strong demand for Gorbroad cattle.

In 2017, the Gorbroad Invitational Sale was the Gordon's first major on-farm sale, with the Gorbroad portion averaging \$8,152.

"Showing is still the best way to promote the herd. We wouldn't have been able to host a successful sale like that without the exposure from the shows," Glen said.

Leading the sale at Lot 1 was a member of the Tiffany family, Gorbroad Atdoorman Tiffany VG86. Fresh from her success in the local Semex On Farm Challenge (OFC), the Val-Bisson BKM Doorman granddaughter of Informer Tiffany was selected for \$12,250 by NSW Master Breeder, Jim Strong, Strongbark Holsteins. Also among the top price getters was another Informer Tiffany granddaughter, Gorbroad Atwoodbrax Tiffany GP84, selling for \$11,000 to the Gardiner family's Master Breeder herd Avonlea Holsteins. Overall ten descendants of Informer Tiffany were sold at the sale for an average of \$6,535, with Glen estimating that more than \$200,000 worth of female progeny have been sold from Informer Tiffany over the years.

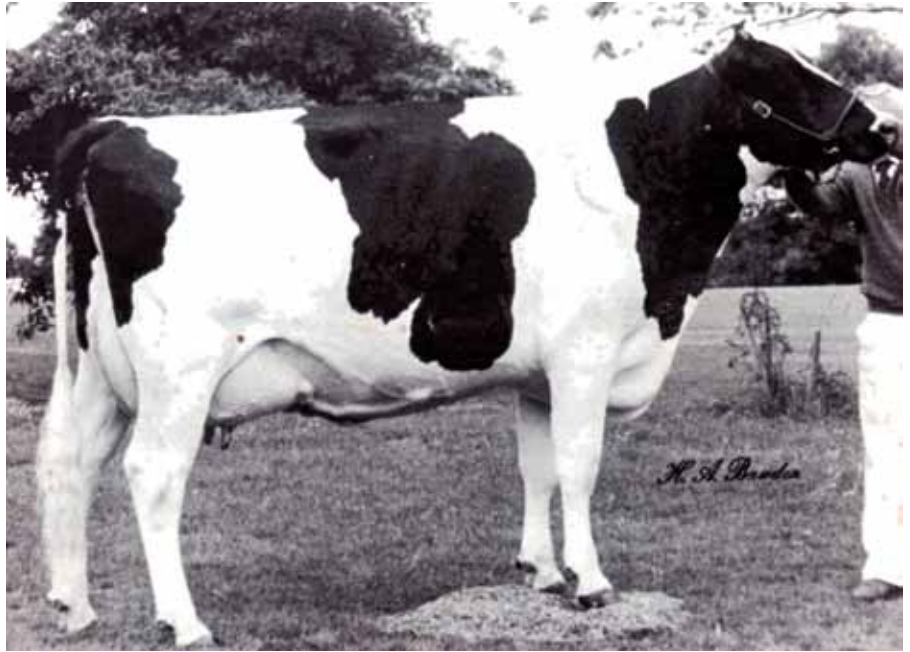
Strong cow families

Strong cow families have always been at the forefront of the Gorbroad breeding program. Powerful Australian families such as the Shimmers, Kassies, Pennys and Cretonnes have formed a potent foundation alongside more recent inclusions of Gorbroad Stormatic Robin-ET EX-93-7E STP(Silvr) 5* 1xM LIFE 5 and Gorbroad Baxter Unbelievable-IMP-ET EX-90-E 4* 1xM 1xF adding the internationally recognised Rosettas and Gypsies to the herd.

Since the introduction of Informer Tiffany, the Tiffanys are now one of the most dominant families at Gorbroad, making up approximately 8% of the herd.

"We'd always liked the Tiffany family," Drew says. "When we were kids, they were a high profile cow family with cows like Warden and Astro Tiffany winning at the Royals, so we grew up following them."

Recognised among the country's elite Holstein cow families, the Tiffanys trace back to one of Australia's all-time great brood cows, Lindenvale Kriss Teena EX-2E 23*. Via Teena's Quality Ultimate daughter,



Orchard Vale Warden Tiffany EX-4E 5* – Champion Cow Sydney Royal 1992, bred by David Orchard.

Ganook Quality Tiffany-ET VG88 2*, David Orchard bred 11 Excellent Tiffanys at Orchard Vale, with successive generations of Royal Champions and high impact cows, including the two-time Royal Melbourne Champion, Orchard Vale Astro Tiffany EX-1E, the Melbourne and Sydney Royal Champion, Orchard Vale Warden Tiffany EX-4E 5*, and Informer Tiffany's grand dam, the striking white show Champion and All Australian, Orchard Vale Snowstorm Tiffany-ET EX-90-3E 4* 1xEP 1xM 2xF 1xP.

Built for making milk

Calving as a junior 2-year-old, Informer

Tiffany started with an impressive first lactation record of 694 kg milk solids at 3.9% protein and 4.6% fat and a PI 114. Calving again as a junior 3-year-old, Tiffany produced an Elite Production Award level 11,118 litres, 413 kg protein and 506 kg fat, before her last lactation as a 5-year-old of 945 kg milk solids, again with remarkable percentages and a herd leading PI of 135.

"Tiffany was our highest solids production cow – she was built for making milk," Drew says. "She's as wide as she is tall with a big 'Tiffany' head. All she ever wants to do is eat and was always the first cow onto the dairy platform."



Orchard Vale Snowstorm Tiffany-ET EX-90-3E 4* 1xEP 1xM 2xF 1xP, All Australia 2-year-old dry 2001.

2019 Cow of the Year

Classified EX-91-1E on her third lactation, Tiffany combined her broad angular frame with an EX-94 mammary. Her Excellent mammary system won her best udder in class at the 2008 IDW Youth Show, and in 2009, Tiffany won her 4-year-old class for the North West Sub Branch Semex OFC before progressing to win Champion 4-year-old at the South Eastern Australian OFC State Finals. Tiffany also had class wins at the Cohuna Holstein Feature and the Shepparton National Show, and was named the North West Sub-branch Cow of the Year in 2010.

Outside of the show ring, Tiffany also competes with the best on the index charts. The August 2019 Australian Breeding Value (ABV) release saw the fourteen-year-old claim No.1 position on the production based Australian Selection Index (ASI) with an ASI+369. With a Balanced Performance Index (BPI) of BPI+360, Tiffany sits at equal No.7 on the national rankings, while her Type Weighted Index (TWI) value of TWI+366 ranks her at No.3. At No.1 on the TWI chart, and No.4 on the BPI chart is her Roumare daughter, Glamorgan Roumare Tiff-ET VG85 BPI+374 TWI+377. Overall, eight Tiffany descendants have reached the benchmark of BPI+300 or higher.

Breed leading brood cow

At a fairly young age, the Gordons decided Tiffany had the capacity to earn more as a brood cow than as a milk cow. To maximise her breeding potential, Tiffany was retired from the dairy and entered regular flush programs, resulting in 54 direct progeny to-date, with 26 daughters classified 85points or higher, including five on VG88 and two at EX-91.

At 21 Stars, Tiffany is now the highest rated active Star Brood Cow in the country. Already equal to industry matriarchs like Kenron Enhancer Jennifer VG87 21* and Donach Lindy Tassalie 2nd EX-93-6E STP 21* 2xEP 2xM LIFE 5, Tiffany's Star Brood power continues to grow as her many active daughters continue to add to her impressive total.

The highest classified Tiffany at Gorbros is a third generation Excellent, Gorbros Bradnick Tiffany EX-92-2E. Her dam, Gorbros Braxton Tiffany-ET EX-91-1E 2* 1xEP has been a successful show and OFC cow, and has produced over 12,000litres from an EX-94 point mammary. Braxton Tiffany's ET sister, Gorbros Braxton I Tiffany-ET VG86, was sold to a local breeder, Cory McGillivray of Killara Holsteins, reaching second top price of \$9,000 at the Stars of the Future Sale in 2013.

The same sale saw another daughter of Informer Tiffany, Gorbros Numero Tiffany-ET VG85 top the sale at \$14,000, selling to Peter Fullerton of Daybreaker Holsteins. Peter then returned at the 2014 Semex Spectacular Sale, paying the top price of \$12,000 for an ET full sister, adding Gorbros Uno Tiffany-ET VG85 to his herd at Nirranda South in Western Victoria.

A third heifer from the flush, Gorbros Unonumero Tiffany-ET VG85 1xEP BPI+360 remained at the Gordons, and currently sits with her dam Informer Tiffany at equal No. 7 on the August 2019 BPI chart. Unonumero Tiffany boasts multiple daughters throughout the index charts, and at IDW 2019, her daughter by Woodcrest King Doc, Gorbros King Uno Tiffany BPI+231, placed first in the All Australian Calf class.

In 2010, Brad and Leesa Windridge, Windy Ridge Holsteins, paid \$6,250 for a Roumare daughter, Gorbros Roumare Tiff-ET VG88 3xM 2xP LIFE 1 at a multi-vendor sale hosted in conjunction with the Royal Melbourne Show.

"We saw the Roumare as a chance to get into the cow family," Brad said. "The Informer cow was a real quality cow. She's wide, she's got power, she's got a great udder and a big production cow."

"Roumare Tiff has been a really easy cow to manage. She's not a cow you really notice even though she milks so well. She gives big levels of production without pushing too hard. It's impressive how well she's held her form and continued to work even when she's calved eight times."

A massive production cow, the Windridge's Roumare Tiff recently exceeded 90,000litres lifetime, peaking at 12,704litre and 852kg milk solids PI 122. Her daughter Windy Ridge Windbrook Tiffany VG87 2xM 2xF 2xP, has inherited her dam's production potential with a top record of 13,360 litres and 856 kg milk solids with a PI 116.

A current favourite, and a member of the 2019 Windy Ridge OFC team, is the three-year old Windy Ridge Masc Tiffany, by Zani Bolton Mascalese.

"Masca Tiffany has a real good structure to her," Brad says. "She's clean boned, super dairy and has a super udder on her. And they all milk -that's the beauty of the Tiffanys. Either way you want to breed them, they are strong for show type or production."



Holstein Australia Cow of the Year 2019 – Orchard Vale Informer Tiffany-ET EX-91-1E 21* 1xEP at 14 years.



Gorbro Fevatwod Tiffany VG88 – 1st 2years 2019 NHD Victorian Winter Fair, Honourable Mention All Australian 2-year-old in-milk 2019.



Gorbro Atwood Tiffany-ET EX-91-1E 2* 1xEP BPI+244 – Champion 2year old South Eastern Australia State OFC Finals 2013.

The favourites

Of all Informer Tiffany's direct progeny, Glen and Drew rate Gorbro Atwood Tiffany-ET EX-91-1E 2* 1xEP BPI+244 as the stand-out.

"Atwood Tiffany is a real all-round performer," Drew says. "She's got great type at EX-91, an EX-93 point udder, is breeding really well, has high components and milks like no tomorrow!"

Atwood Tiffany produced her best lactation as a 5-year-old with 12,398 litres in 305 days, 445 kg protein and 553 kg fat, with a PI of 136.

In 2013, Atwood Tiffany won her class as a 2-year-old in the North West OFC, before advancing to win her class at State level, with the Judge, Bill Thompson describing her as 'outstanding' and having "a massive frame for a 2-year-old."

Atwood Tiffany is also the dam of one of the most exciting young cows at Gorbro in Gorbro Fevatwod Tiffany VG88. Fevatwod Tiffany received the maximum two-year-old class score of VG88, while producing 689kg milk solids on her first lactation. Like her dam, she won her Senior two-year-old OFC class, as well as being named first in the two-year-old at the 2019 NHD Victorian Winter Fair, and Reserve All Australian two-year-old in-milk.

Fevatwod Tiffany has a Mr KB Nighttime daughter and has calved again recently in preparation for a 2020 Dairy Week campaign.

"Fevatwod Tiffany is just a favourite here," Glen says. "She has a big 'cadillac' frame and she has a great udder and loads of texture. She really epitomises the Tiffany traits – combining big production with great type."

HJ



Gorbro Unonumero Tiffany-ET VG85 1xEP BPI+360.

Tiffany family tree

Lindenvale Kriss Teena EX-2E 23*

07-09-1974

(Linmack Kriss King)



Ganook Quality Tiffany-ET VG88 2*

24/05/1982

(Quality Ultimate EX)



Orchard Vale Warden Tiffany EX-4E 5*

13/02/1987

(A Hilltopper Warden EX)



Orchard Vale Astro Tiffany 2nd -ET VG87 11*

21/03/1992

(Bridon Astro Jet EX)



Orchard Vale Storm Tiffany-ET EX-3E 2* 1xF

04/10/1997

(Maughlin Storm EX)



Orchard Vale Snowstorm Tiffany-ET EX-90-3E

4* 1xEP 1xM 2xF 1xP

01/09/1999

(Strathaire Southwind Luke EX)



Orchard Vale Tiller Tiffany-ET VG87 1*

02/04/2003

(Tarinka Park Fatal Death GP)



Orchard Vale Informer Tiffany-ET

EX-91-1E (g) 21* 1xEP BPI+360

Cow of the Year 2019

31/07/2005

(Hill Valley Basar Acme VG)



Gorbro Atwood Tiffany-ET EX-91-1E (g) 2*

1xEP BPI+256

04/01/2011

(Maple-Downs-I G W Atwood)



Gorbro Fevatwod Tiffany VG88

06/01/2016

(Gorbro Fevable)

Phil Hall joins HA board

New Holstein Australia board member, Phil Hall (Roblynne Farms, Harvey WA) has a long history of involvement with the association and is a passionate breeder. With an award-winning cheese business on the side, and an eclectic mix of breeds, he brings a rich perspective to the board.

Phil and his wife Suzanne, dairy with their son, Tavis, and his partner, Sami Meade, milking about 180 cows year-round and selling their traditional artisan French-style cheese to restaurants, wineries and cheese outlets in WA, Melbourne and Adelaide.

Their prefix, Roblynne, was registered by Phil's father in the 1960s. Phil has been involved at sub-branch level since 1990 when joined the farm. He has held numerous roles, including President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Federal Delegate as well as WA State President. He is the WA Regional Chair and former non-regional representative on the Strategic Directions Committee, having resigned this position upon his appointment to the Board.

Phil says he is not bringing any specific agendas to the board but is excited by the opportunity to shape the future of the Association and the breed. He's keen to maintain member involvement in classification, registration and parent verification.

"Our own business benefits enormously from these tools, but maintaining



Phil and Suzanne Hall have been active members of Holstein Australia for decades.

participation is also important for the future of the breed," Phil said.

He's also keen to see a managed approach to the impact of genomics on the Holstein breed. "At a farm level, genomics is another breeding tool like classification. It's up to individuals to determine what we get out of it: the more we participate, the more we get out of it."

But Phil is also acutely aware of the impact of genomics at a breed level.

"Genomics is going to have a massive role in the future of Holsteins and it's important to ensure we maintain the breed true to type. Genomics can help us maintain a true to type Holstein, by identifying and using families and sire lines."

The Halls have been genomically testing their own Holstein calves for the past 2-3 years. Every Holstein is also registered and classified as a 2-year-old.

"We want to breed profitable, polled dairy cows. When making breeding decisions we also look at fertility, feet, legs, pin height,

teat length and dairyness. Other breeding tools they use include sexed semen, heat time collars, monthly herd testing and milk pregnancy testing.

While there's no question of Phil's passion for Holsteins, he's also a keen breeder of minor breeds. The herd includes seven breeds, of which Holsteins make up 60%. Other breeds include: Normande, Swedish Red, Guernsey, Jersey, English Dairy Shorthorn and Pinzgauer from Austria and Linebacker from America. The cross section of breeds evolved from Phil's curiosity of different breeds of dairy cattle and their unique characteristics, including of milk, and the opportunities offered to future-proof the business. The Halls aim to keep each breed true to type with each individual at breed standard or better for type and production. Belonging to a breed society helps them achieve that, but there's not one in Australia for most of their minor breeds.

"It makes us more aware of the value we get from Holstein Australia," Phil said. **HJ**



New HA board member, Phil Hall with his herd at Harvey, WA.

2018-19 Holstein/Semex All-Australian Winners

Celebrating success

Congratulations to the 2019 Holstein/Semex All Australian winners announced at the Annual Awards Night at Inverloch, Victoria. Vaughn Johnston, Semex National Sales Manager, said the winners represented the cream of the crop of Australian Holsteins.

"It's a major achievement for any cow to simply qualify – she has to be outstanding in the show ring, and then she needs to be captured in a photograph that shows her strengths," Vaughn said. Receiving an All-Australian award brings a high level of exposure to the winning animals and their breeders.

"These days social and digital media mean the All Australian winners are showcased around the world, which is quite fitting, as they are indeed equal to the best Holsteins anywhere in the world. The profile that comes with that is a great marketing tool for the owners and breeders," he said.

Special congratulations to Pam Malcom, Paringa Holsteins for achieving Premier Breeder and the Gardiner family, Avonlea Holsteins for Premier Exhibitor. "Taking out these awards requires a sustained breeding and showing effort. It really is a testimony to their skills and commitment," he said.

Thanks to this year's All Australian judging committee, Lisa Mackay (Linsand, Victoria), Wes Brown (Juleanwes, Tamworth) and David Peglar (Sleepy Hollow, South Australia).

The following pages feature the top placed animals in each class.

PREMIER BREEDER

Awarded to:

Paringa Holsteins
(Pam Malcolm)

Premier Breeder award
sponsored by WFI



PREMIER EXHIBITOR

Awarded to:

Avonlea Holsteins
(JH & CJ Gardiner)

Premier Exhibitor award
sponsored by WFI



The Holstein Australia/Semex All-Australian Competition is a national photographic competition that recognises excellence in conformation and showing. It is open to all Holstein Australia Herdbook and Appendix 1,2 and 3 females that have been successfully shown at nominated qualifying shows throughout Australia each year. The three-member judging panel selected both the finalists and the top three places in each class.

6 YEARS & OVER



1st: Hullabaloo Bolton Sundae 7282-ET

Sire: Sandy-Valley Bolton-ET

Dam: Burn-Brae FC Sundae

Breeder: Murray Varcoe, Vic

Exhibitor: Clydevale Holsteins Pty Ltd ATF Dee Family Trust, Vic



2nd: Paringa Braxton Parry

Sire: Regancrest S Braxton-ET

Dam: Paringa Champion

Paradise-Imp-ET

Breeder: Pam Malcolm, Vic

Exhibitor: Chris & Mary Gleeson
And A & S Barron



3rd: Elm Banks Seaver Donna-ET

Sire: R-E-W Seaver-BLF-CVF-BYF

Dam: Elm Banks Dee Donna-ET

Breeder: Chris & Mary Gleeson,
Vic

Exhibitor: Chris & Mary
Gleeson, Vic

4th: Pardee Aftershock Tindora 3; Oakwood Partnership, NSW

5th: Bluechip Goldwyn Frosty-Imp-ET; Crawford Family, NSW

6th: Chapple Valley Destry Suzanne; J W Jennings, Vic

JUDGES' COMMENTS

An incredibly strong class of Holstein dairy cows. Our winner came out on top because she is more correct in the front end and has better teat placement than the cow in 2nd who is more correct through the front end than 3rd. The cow in 4th has sheer size and veneration through the udder and 5th and 6th placings have depth, openness and evenness of fore and rear quarters and correct feet and legs.

2018-19 Holstein/Semex All-Australian Winners

5 YEAR OLD



1st: Avonlea Dempsey Tammy

Sire: Lirr Drew Dempsey

Dam: Leader Dundee Timtam

Breeder: HT & VJ & JH Gardiner P/L, Vic

Exhibitor: JH & CJ Gardiner, Vic



2nd Eclipse Goldchip Tiffany

Sire: Mr Chassity Gold Chip

Dam: Eclipse Contend Tiffany-ET

Breeder: Richard Hull, Vic

Exhibitor: Chris & Mary Gleeson, Vic



3rd Instyle Windhammer Auromie

Sire: Gillette Windhammer-ET

Dam: Ponderosa Auromie-Imp-ET

Breeder: R J Thomas, Qld

Exhibitor: Instyle Holsteins

4th: Avonlea Aftershock Reba; JH & CJ Gardiner, Vic

5th: Paringa Fever Opa; Christopher Allan, CC & J Cochrane, Rose Philipzen, Stuart Lockhart

6th: Glenunga Wind Butterbrook; JH & CJ Gardiner, Vic

JUDGES' COMMENTS

Our winner's overall capacity and great shape in the udder had her in 1st place. The 5 year old in 2nd shows more width at the top of the rear udder with more depth of heel while 3rd is ideal for udder attachment and udder texture. 4th over 5th has more bone quality and is more dairy and 5th over 6th has more width in the rear udder a better set of rear legs.

4 YEAR OLD



1st Fairvale Goldchip Melody 770

Sire: Mr Chassity Gold Chip

Dam: Fairvale Sanchez Melody 671

Breeder: Fairvale Holsteins, Tas

Exhibitor: Crawford Family, NSW



2nd Avonlea Reginald Jacobonia

Sire: Regancrest Reginald

Dam: Avonlea Ignite Jacobonia

Breeder: J L Drury, NSW

Exhibitor: Matthew Templeton & JH & CJ Gardiner, Vic



3rd Murribrook Doorman Candace-ET

Sire: Val-Bisson Doorman-ET

Dam: Murribrook Goldwyn Candace-Imp-ET

Breeder: M J Sowter, NSW

Exhibitor: Declan L Patten & Callum Moscript

4th: Horizon Bradnick Ambrosia 2-ET; Chris & Mary Gleeson, Vic

5th: Bluechip Mh Hero Marion; Declan Patten, Westmuir Holsteins, F & D Borba

6th: Brindabella Razor Midge; Jade & Scott Sieben

JUDGES' COMMENTS

An easy winner! The young cow in 1st has the advantage through her udder especially through the fore udder. Placings through 1st to 4th had width of rear udder and cleanness of bone, overall length and cleaner through the front end. The cows in 5th and 6th have good depth of rib and width and shape of rear udder.

2018-19 Holstein/Semex All-Australian Winners

3 YEAR OLD



1st Whitegold Absolute Satin-ET-Red

Sire: Apples Absolute-ET-Red

Dam: Whitegold Satin Inred-ET-Red

Breeder: A Richardson-Hough & M R Rood, NSW

Exhibitor: A Richardson-Hough & M R Rood, NSW



2nd Eagle Ridge Dreams Pauline-Twin

Sire: Heavenly Golden Dreams

Dam: Eagle Ridge Goldchip Pauline

Breeder: R G & K V Eagle, NSW

Exhibitor: B & J Gavenlock, Vic



3rd Budgereee AA Jodie-ET-Red

Sire: Apples Absolute-ET-Red

Dam: Budgereee Secure Jodie-Imp-ET-Red

Breeder: C R Cowan, NSW

Exhibitor: J H & C J Gardiner, Vic

4th: Yurunga Sid Mandy; HV & VJ & JH Gardiner P/L & LGJ & KN Marshall

5th: Bevandale Shakespeare Sally; Bevandale Holsteins, Qld

6th: Mario Park Atwood Midas-ET; Murray Polson, NSW

JUDGES' COMMENTS

A hotly contested class but once again a clear winner. 1st over 2nd has sharper bone and is more dairy while 2nd over 3rd has a clear advantage in her rump structure. 3rd has a higher and wider rear udder over 4th who showed more correct teat placement and rear udder height over 5th and 6th.

2 YEAR OLD – IN MILK (OVER 30 MONTHS)



1st Paringa Beemer Lilah

Sire: Pol Butte Mc Beemer-ET

Dam: Paringa Millard Libby-Twin

Breeder: Paringa Holsteins, Vic

Exhibitor: Courtney Buchanan, Vic



2nd: Gorbro Arch Ro Kassie-ET

Sire: Eclipse Atwoods Archrival-Imp-ET

Dam: Mooalong Ro Kassie

Breeder: R K & J R Gordon, Vic

Exhibitor: R K & J R Gordon, Vic



3rd: Elm Banks Doorman Lulu

Sire: Val-Bisson Doorman-ET

Dam: Elm Banks Windbrook Lulu

Breeder: Chris & Mary Gleeson, Vic

Exhibitor: Chris & Mary Gleeson, Vic

4th: Avonlea Brady Portrait 2nd-ET; J H & C J Gardiner, Vic

5th: Eclipse Octane Princess 13-ET; Declan Patten, Brad Salmon, Callum Moscript, Aquity I cows

6th: Avonlea Golden Faith-ET; J H & C J Gardiner, Vic

JUDGES' COMMENTS

An easy class winner in this category with more overall capacity and depth of rib. 2nd to 4th showed great udder quality and width of frame while 5th and 6th have better overall type and nice udder texture.

2018-19 Holstein/Semex All-Australian Winners

2 YEAR OLD – IN MILK (30 MONTHS & UNDER)



1st Elmar Solomon Jessica 2-ET

Sire: Walnutlawn Solomon-ET
Dam: Elmar Aftershock Jessica
Breeder: Elmar Holsteins, Vic
Exhibitor: Elmar Holsteins, Vic

SENIOR YEARLING DRY (OVER 15 MONTHS)



1st Mario Park Solomons Midas

Sire: Walnutlawn Solomon-ET
Dam: Mario Park Atwood Midas-ET
Breeder: Murray Polson, NSW
Exhibitor: Murray Polson, NSW



2nd Bluechip EV Shesaawesome Apple- ET-Red

Sire: Luck-E Awesome-Red
Dam: Bluechip Ev Golden
 Apple-Imp-ET-Red
Breeder: Bluechip Holsteins, Vic
Exhibitor: B & J Gavenlock, Vic



2nd Lara 1stclass Mandy 2

Sire: Zahbulls Alta1stclass-ET
Dam: Ingoldale Lyre Mandy
Breeder: Ferguson Farms, Vic
Exhibitor: Ferguson Farms, Vic



3rd Gorbro Fevatwod Tiffany

Sire: Gorbro Fevabe-ET
Dam: Gorbro Atwood Tiffany-
 ET
Breeder: R K & J R Gordon, Vic
Exhibitor: R K & J R Gordon, Vic



3rd Cherrylock Chassitys Innocence- Imp-ET

Sire: Val-Bisson Doorman-ET
Dam: Ms Chassity Atwood
 57814-ET
Breeder: American Holstein
 Friesian Assoc, USA
Exhibitor: B & J Gavenlock, Vic

4th: Arrallik Windbrook Meg-ET; Cameron Yarnold, NSW
5th: Mitch Solomon Kassie-ET; Mitch Holsteins, Vic
6th: Bluechip Golden Jewels-ET-MFF-CNF-DPF-XIF-BLF; R L & T L
 Wishart, Vic

JUDGES' COMMENTS

A clear winner that has great overall capacity with a high and wide rear udder and had the best udder in the class. 2nd over 3rd has the frame and capacity that blends better through the front end while 3rd has a better shape of udder over 4th. The 2 year olds in 5th and 6th have good balance and correct bone quality.

4th: Mario Park Walnutlawn Midas; Murray Polson, NSW
5th: Hawova Solomon Tamie; Shaw, Clarke & Sieben
6th: Paringa Goldchip Alanna; Paringa Holsteins, Vic

JUDGES' COMMENTS

The heifer in 1st is an easy winner with overall capacity and length for her age. In close 2nd comes a heifer with a more correct front end over 3rd. The other finalists in the class had clean bone, depth of flank and good length.

2018-19 Holstein/Semex All-Australian Winners

SENIOR YEARLING DRY (UNDER 15 MONTHS)



1st Lightning Ridge Dback Limelight-Imp-ET

Sire: Mr D Apple Diamondback

Dam: Ms Malarky-Lr Limelight-ET

Breeder: American Holstein Friesian Assoc, USA

Exhibitor: Mal R Nikora, K Bleijendaal And R Bajada



2nd Avonlea Jacoby Sarah-ET

Sire: Cycle Doorman Jacoby-ET

Dam: Avonlea DJ Sally

Breeder: J H & C J Gardiner, Vic

Exhibitor: J H & C J Gardiner, Vic



3rd Hawova Solomon Tamie

Sire: Walnutlawn Solomon-ET

Dam: Hawova R Reginald Tamie

Breeder: W E & I T Shaw & Sons, NSW

Exhibitor: Shaw, Clarke & Sieben

4th: Burn-Brae Solomon Peachy; A J & S D Mackie, Vic

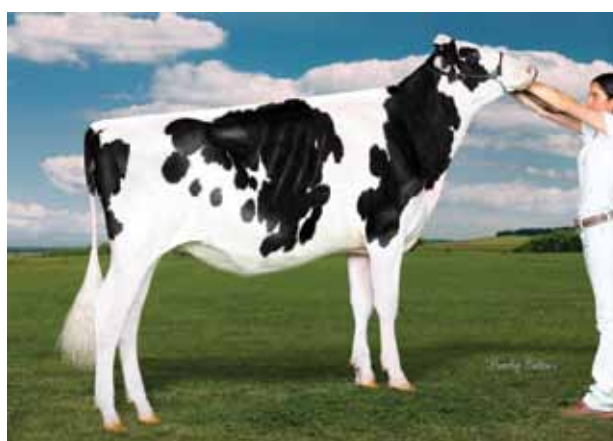
5th: Brindabella Jacoby Nananoo; Jade & Scott Sieben

6th: Vala Crush Hailee-ET-PF; Christopher Allen And Josh & Callum Karn

JUDGES' COMMENTS

A strong class throughout but 1st and 2nd had better overall capacity, depth of rib and strength through the pastern. The heifer in 3rd had good depth of fore rib while 4th to 6th showed good style and dairy strength and depth through the front end.

ALL-AUSTRALIAN HOLSTEIN YOUTH CALF



1st Hawova Solomon Tamie

Sire: Walnutlawn Solomon-ET

Dam: Hawova R Reginald Tamie

Breeder: W E & I T Shaw & Sons, NSW

Exhibitor: Shaw, Clarke & Sieben

Handler: Georgia Sieben



2nd Coomboona Diamondback Salti-Imp-ET

Sire: Mr D Apple Diamondback

Dam: Petitclerc Gold

Saltalamacchia-ET

Exhibitor: R K & J R Gordon, Vic

Breeder: Canadian Holstein Friesian Assoc, Can

Handler: Kieran Coburn



3rd Burn-Brae Solomon Peachy

Sire: Walnutlawn Solomon-ET

Dam: Burn-Brae Fever Peachy

Exhibitor: A J & S D Mackie, Vic

Breeder: A J & S D Mackie, Vic

Handler: Scott Mackie

4th: Gorbroy King Uno Tiffany-ET; R K & J R Gordon, Vic; Handler: Lachie Malcolm

5th: Gorbroy Unixtoo Tiffany-ET; T J & T M Fleming; Handler: Toby Fleming

6th: Elm Banks Unix Ballet; Chris & Mary Gleeson, Vic; Handler: Stacey Gleeson

JUDGES' COMMENTS

A great pair of winners with 1st and 2nd having better length and depth over 3rd. The calf in 3rd showed better rump and the calves in 4th to 6th didn't quite have enough depth to front end, fore rib or length.

2018-19's elite cows

Lifetime achievement awards recognise the silent achievers in the herd. Holstein Australia has three elite production awards that provide an objective assessment of the progress of your breeding program. They are:

1. Lifetime Production Achievement
2. Star Brood Cow.
3. Superior Total Performance

Once a year, we publish a list of cows receiving the top awards for the financial year.

Lifetime Production Achievement (Diamond)

Lifetime Production (LTP) Awards recognise animals with exceptional production (litres, fat and protein) over their lifetime. There are five levels of LTP, with level 5, Diamond being the highest. The minimum production requirements to achieve Diamond LTP are: 110,000 Litres, 4,180 kg Fat and 3,575 kg Protein. It takes a truly exceptional cow to achieve a Diamond LTP. The LTP can be awarded posthumous.

Refer to the Holstein Australia website for more information.

Lifetime Achievement – Diamond			
Animal Name	Date of Birth	Classification	Owner
Alnor Sue Shylad 4191	7/12/2004	EX-92-5E	Alnor Partners
Blackwood Park Pplay Olivia 6223	3/07/2007	VG88	J C Altmann & Son
Blackwood Park Smatic Viv 6117	15/09/2006	VG87	J C Altmann & Son
Brindabella Dundee Nana	20/07/2006	EX-90-1E	Jade & Scott Sieben
Creswick J M Liza	26/09/2003	VG87	Jarrah Holsteins
Davindy Export Anika	29/04/2006	VG89	D & C Janke
Dilee Bullbar 18	4/05/2007	VG87	K L & D M White
Elanen Traction Nancy	19/08/2000	VG87	N J Coster
Giliam Nldharry 2547	13/03/2005		Mailig
Glenorleigh Terrason Padstow	18/10/2004	EX-90-4E	J C Altmann & Son
Juleanwes Blackstar Dita	9/11/2001	EX-90-6E	W J & J L Brown
Kentish Downs Victor Susan	28/09/2004	VG85	Kentish Downs Proprietors
Lakewood Park Prelude Deanne	26/01/2001	VG85	F & G Capizzi
Munde Park Duncan Countess	3/08/2002	VG89	M A & D L Jarrett
Numeralla Donor 3773	27/02/2006	VG86	Numeralla
Rokola Treaty Fancy	27/12/1995	VG86	Yattarna Trading
Shade River Calano Anna	8/01/2004	EX-90-1E	G R & C Z Manning
Shade River Dnkalano Beryl	18/03/2004	VG87	G R & C Z Manning
Silvermere Garrison Buttergirl	27/12/2006		Silvermere Holsteins
Treeton Informer Patsy	21/11/2005	EX-90-3E	G A & L E Jenkins
Wallaroi Gibson Daisy-ET	1/07/2004	EX-91-1E	Colin Stone



Star Brood Cow awards

The Star Brood Cow Award recognises genetically superior brood cows based on the conformation and production performance of their progeny. To qualify a cow need not be classified but must have produced at least three progeny classified GOOD PLUS or better.

Star Brood Cow – 10 Stars and higher			
Name	Classification	Owner	SBC Award
Hill Valley Mascot Alice-ET	VG88	R & H Perrett	30* Star
Orchard Vale Informer Tiffany-ET	EX-91-1E	R K & J R Gordon	21* Star
Manna Farm Apollo Dee-CVC	VG87	Manna Farm Holsteins	20* Star
Rissmore Blackstar Sally-ET	EX-90-6E	W J Murray & Sons	17* Star
Glomar Starbuck Niome-ET	VG87	R Johnston	15* Star
Hill Valley Anastasia	VG85	S L J & J M Mills	15* Star
Hill Valley Showpre Andrea-ET	VG88	R & H Perrett	15* Star
Innes Park Inspire Pansy-ET-RED	G79	P M Hurrell	15* Star
St. Clair Allen Swan	EX-91-2E	St Clair Holsteins	15* Star
Eureka Celsius Swan-IMP-ET	VG85	St Clair Holsteins	14* Star
Fiorendino Prelude Faith-ET	VG87	Multiple Ownership	14* Star
Perfect Partners Laudan Patricia 2-ET	VG88	Rowen Foote	14* Star
Rissmore Progress Sally	EX-91-6E	W J Murray & Sons	14* Star
Avonlea Robthom Connie 2nd	EX-93-3E	Multiple Ownership	13* Star
Brundell Storm Blackrose-IMP-ET	EX-91-2E	J & G M Ieraci & Sons	13* Star
Elmar Ladino Josephine-TWIN-ET-RED	GP84	Elmar Holsteins	13* Star
Bushlands Paddy Blythe	VG86	L D Harris & Co	12* Star
Gildon Inspiration Fantasy-ET	VG87	Tarwin Breeding Services	12* Star
Hill Valley Donspre Andrea-ET	VG89	R & H Perrett	12* Star
Joyley Luckystrike Della-ET	EX-94-4E	Misty Brae Holsteins Pty Ltd	12* Star
Rengaw Goldbullion Janea-ET	EX-92-7E	Rengaw Holsteins	12* Star
Romanac Insp Orbetta-IMP	VG89	Jamerri	12* Star
Calderlea Leader Tassalie 4-ET	VG89	L G & L A & T C Calder	11* Star
Coolea Outs Debutante	EX-91-3E	Crawford Family	11* Star
Coral Hill Jed Meg	EX1E	B A & S E McGinn	11* Star
Eagle Ridge Micheal Polly 3rd-ET	VG86	R G & K V Eagle	11* Star
Eclipse Goldwyn Deanne-ET	VG88	Richard Hull	11* Star
Rengaw Sunshine Jazz	VG88	Rengaw Holsteins	11* Star
Rissmore Stormatic Sally-ET	EX-91-1E	W J Murray & Sons	11* Star
Brooklane Hanover Joy-ET	EX3E	L D Harris & Co	10* Star
Hill Valley Win Astina-ET	VG88	Dehne A Vinnicombe	10* Star
Juleanwes Astre D. Dita	EX2E	W J & J L Brown	10* Star
Mario Park Goldwyn Alicia-IMP-ET	EX-93-3E	Murray Polson	10* Star
Mitchmantle Storm Roxy-IMP-ET	EX-90-1E	Mitch Holsteins	10* Star

Superior Total Performance

The Superior Total Performance (STP) award recognises longevity. These awards are applied for individually at classification. To be eligible a cow must classify with a type of VG85 or higher; have a mammary value of at least 85; have milked for at least six lactations and meet the production requirements for the STP level. A diamond STP cow is the most exceptional of all the HA awards.

Refer to the Holstein Australia website for Superior Total Performance category details and minimum standards.

Superior Total Performance (Diamond and Gold)			
Name	Classification	Owner	STP Award
Glenorleigh Terrason Padstow	EX-90-4E	J C Altmann & Son	Diamond
Shade River Dnkalano Beryl	VG87	G R & C Z Manning	Diamond
Boscawen Kendall Queen 3349	EX-93-5E	Boscawen Holsteins	Gold
Boscawen Zill Creed 3763	EX-90-4E	Boscawen Holsteins	Gold
Harklaje Holee Topsy	EX-90-3E	T J & J E Clark	Gold
Holloodon Lorenzo Leonie 1794	EX-91-6E	J M & N L Holland	Gold
Karnet Gravita Dian 862	VG88	Karnet	Gold
Mallagannee Luckystrike 1566	EX-91-2E	M G & A M Yea	Gold
Solney Tbt Johanna 3rd	EX-90-3E	P A & F A Jefford	Gold
Somerelle Emory Thumbelina	EX-90-3E	J M & N L Holland	Gold

2019 Master Breeders

The highly-coveted Master Breeder Award recognises the long-term achievement of herds that have bred at least 300 registered animals over a minimum of 20 years. Points are awarded for classification scores, star brood, production and performance awards. This year 19 Holstein breeders received the award.

MASTER BREEDER



Prefix	Name	Location
Arnum	McKay, Wilma and Peter	Poowong (South Gippsland)
Blossomvale	Anderson, Brian and Donna	Simpson (Western District, Vic)
Corra Lea	Prout, Leigh	Kerang (Western District, Vic)
Country Road	Cook, Ross	Edi Upper (North-East Vic)
Eagle Ridge	Eagle, Russell and Kerry	Finley (Riverina, NSW)
Gildon	Gillan, John and June	Caldermeade (West Gippsland)
Glomar	Johnston, Robert	Bundalaguagh (East Gippsland)
Gordon Glen	Vollmer, Jeanette	Woodville via Maitland (NSW)
Hill Valley	Perrett, Roger and Helen	Korumburra (Soth Gippsland)
Jordney Park	Swayn, Rod and Libby	Nalangil (Western District, Vic)
Katandra Park	Fry, Don (or Lachlan)	Brunswick Junction (WA)
Leeuwin	Biddulph, Jacqui and Bob	Cowaramup (WA)
Newlyn Park	Newman, Ian	Meadows (SA)
Rissmore	Murray, Carl and Leanne	Conjola (NSW)
Segenhoe Park	Johnston, David and Glenyce	Boorcan (Western District)
Silvermere	Thompson, Colin	Cowra (NSW)
Sleepy Hollow	Peglar, David	McLaren Vale (SA)
Waltopso	Allott, Paul & Emma	Strathmerton (North Vic.)
Wyoming	Shearer, (Janelle Wenham)	Maison Dieu via Singleton (NSW)

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- ✓ Great ratings for Milk and Fat



(L) Mogul Daughter, SPH Yelena, (R) Montana Dam, Sullhrtrford Nuno Ana 383

REPORTS BY JON HOLLAND, HOLLODDON, HOLSTEINS

NSW State Show

Nowra, August 2019

Before naming his Senior Champion at the NSW State Show, Victorian Master Breeder John Gardiner, Avonlea Holsteins, took a moment to praise the members and exhibitors for their efforts in presenting their animals.

"Shows still play a significant part in our industry," he said. "They give us a benchmark of what we should aspire to."

"A lot of time and effort goes into getting cows into this form. It's the stuff that inspires us to do better."

When selecting his Champion, John was looking for a cow that showed the qualities that breeders look for in everyday herds. These qualities he found in his eventual Champion, Calderwood Goldendreams Marg 2nd-TWIN VG 87.

"Our Champion Cow exemplifies the sort of cow we should try to breed - a cow every breeder would love to have in their herd," he said. "She's a beautiful young cow, really well balanced, and with a terrific udder that she carries right up in her body."

Exhibited by Master Breeder Jim Strong, Strongbark Holsteins, the four-year-old Heavenly Golden Dreams daughter won the title ahead of herd mate Bluechip Atwood Whynot EX-91-2E in Reserve.

For his Intermediate, John selected another member from the Strongbark show team, a young cow he believes has an exciting future, Strongbark Arc Candy VG89.

Descending from the legendary Sydney Royal Champion, Strongbark Broker Candy EX-3E 8* 1xEP 1xP, Arc Candy is sired by Eclipse Atwood Archival from a VG Gillette Windhammer daughter of another Sydney Champion, Strongbark Allen Candy 2nd Ex-92-2E 5*.

The Junior Championship went to Boscawen Holsteins with their entry Boscawen Solomon Hezbollah 7529-ET. A grand daughter of the 2011 World Dairy Expo Intermediate Champion, Dubeau Dundee Hezbollah EX-92, Solomon Hezbollah impressed with her width and openness of frame, having the advantage in overall dairy strength over the Reserve Junior, Rockstar Weeksdale Avalanche Honeyspot-IMP-ET.



NSW State Show Junior champion Holstein - Boscawen Solomon Hezbollah 7529-ET, led by Georgia Herne, exhibited by Herne and Russell, Boscawen Holsteins NSW, with judge John Gardiner and sponsor Lindsay Moxey, Elders. Photo: Robert Crawford, Australian Community Media

NSW HOLSTEIN STATE SHOW - NOWRA 2019

Judge: John Gardiner, Avonlea Holsteins, Victoria

Senior Champion Cow: Calderwood Goldendreams Marg 2nd VG87, Jim Strong; Reserve: Bluechip Atwood Whynot EX-91-2E, Jim Strong; Honourable Mention: Glenalbas Dreamy Jade VG87, T & K Cochrane.

Intermediate Champion Cow: Strongbark Arc Candy VG89, Jim Strong; Reserve Intermediate: Murribrook Sid Vienna, AF Garratty.

Junior Champion: Boscawen Solomon Hezbollah 7529-ET, Herne and Russell, Reserve: Rockstar Weeksdale Avalanche Honeyspot-IMP-ET, AF Garratty.

Senior Champion Red & White Holstein: Mosleigh Dynamite Sylvia-RED VG87, Robert Wilson.

Intermediate Red & White Champion: Codash Reality Candyapple-RED, Charles Lucas.

Junior Red & White Champion: Whitegold PG Diamond Tequila-IMP-ET-RED, Ebony Wills.



NSW State Show Nowra Senior Champion – Calderwood Goldendreams Marg 2nd VG87, exhibited by Jim Strong, Strongbark Holsteins NSW.



Royal Adelaide Show

September 2019

A fantastic result at the 2019 Royal Adelaide Show for South Australian breeders Angela and Ben Tweddle, with Benlargo Holsteins winning Premier Breeder and Exhibitor along with the Senior and Intermediate Holstein titles.

Their Senior Champion, 5-year-old Benlargo Sid Furry-IMP-ET VG89, comes from the world renowned Chief Faith cow family via her third dam, two-time Royal Winter Fair Grand Champion and 2005 All World Cow of the Year, Quality BC Francisco EX-96.

Holstein Judge, Lisa McKay, Linsand Holsteins, was impressed by the sharpness and style of her Senior cow. "My Champion was very youthful with a really good udder," Lisa said. "She showed terrific dairy quality and texture and had terrific quality to her bone."

Winning the Intermediate Championship was the senior two-year-old Benlargo Elijah Ding VG85. The Ding family has been hugely successful for the Tweddle family for several years, established via a partnership in the two-time IDW Intermediate Champion, Tiger Farms SG Ding EX-93-3E 2* 1xF.

The Junior title belonged to the Pacitti family with Misty Brae Diamondback May, a descendant of the great American brood cow Eric-Dew Conductor Peggy EX-95-6E.

ADELAIDE ROYAL SHOW 2019

Judge: Lisa McKay, Linsand Holsteins, SA

Senior Champion Holstein: Benlargo Sid Furry-IMP-ET VG89 Benlargo Holsteins; **Reserve:** Empire Brook Paris-ET VG88 Andrew Pacitti.

Intermediate Champion Holstein: Benlargo Elijah Ding VG85 Benlargo Holsteins; **Reserve:** Arrowstar Doorman Summer-IMP-ET VG85 Windy Vale Holsteins.

Juvenile Champion Holstein: Misty Brae Diamondback May Misty Brae Holdings; **Reserve:** Billabong McCutchen Sparkle Billabong Farms.

Cow With Best Udder: Empire Brook Paris-ET VG88 Andrew Pacitti.

Most Successful Holstein Exhibitor: Benlargo Holsteins.

Most Successful Holstein Breeder: Benlargo Holsteins.



Adelaide Royal Senior Champion Holstein – Benlargo Sid Furry-IMP-ET VG89, exhibited by Angela and Ben Tweddle, Benlargo Holsteins, SA.

Royal Melbourne Show – September 2019

The Chief Faith family claimed victory at the 2019 Royal Melbourne Show with Justin Johnston's entry, Glomar McCutchen

Annecy 5506 VG87 taking the Senior title. Sired by De-Su BKM McCutchen from an EX-90-2E Ladys-Manor PL Shamrock



Royal Melbourne Show Senior Champion Holstein, Glomar McCutchen Annecy 5506 VG87.

ROYAL MELBOURNE SHOW DAIRY CATTLE 2019

Judge: Brian Leslie Pooley Bridge Holsteins, Victoria

Senior Champion Holstein: Glomar McCutchen Annecy 5506 VG87 Justin Johnston; **Reserve:** Glomar Commander Lucky 5585 GP84 Justin Johnston.

Best Senior Vessel: Glomar McCutchen Annecy 5506 VG87 Justin Johnston.

Intermediate Champion Holstein: Crookslea Absolute Lasco N & M Wilkie; **Reserve:** Glomar Exactly Lucky Justin Johnston.

Best Intermediate Vessel: Crookslea Absolute Lasco N & M Wilkie.

Juvenile Champion Holstein: Crookslea CF Rose N & M Wilkie.

Reserve: Glomar Contender Wendy 6100 Justin Johnston.



daughter, Anney stems from a European branch of the Chief Faith family via the renowned Plushanski Cleitus Farci VG. Having won the Junior Milking title at Melbourne in 2017, it was fitting for Anney to take the Senior Champion's title in 2019 on the return of senior milking cows at Melbourne's Royal Show after several years absence.

Neville Wilke's Crookslea Holsteins took home the remaining championships with Crookslea CF Rose winning Junior Champion and Crookslea Absolute Lasco, a grand daughter of the 2007 Royal Melbourne Intermediate Champion Crookslea Model Lass Ex-90-1E, taking Intermediate.

Royal Queensland Show – Ekka

August 2019

At Brisbane's Ekka, all three Championship titles were claimed by Darling Downs

ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW 2019

Judge: Murray Polson Mario Park Holsteins NSW

Champion Holstein Cow: Arabella Broke Tam Arabella Farming Company; **Reserve:** Arabella JettAir Dotti GP84 Arabella Farming Company; **Honourable Mention:** Arabella Fever Deanne Arabella Farming Company.

Champion Intermediate Female: Arabella Diamond Lynrose Arabella Farming Company; **Reserve:** Pooley Bridge Velvet Anne 91 A.D. & S.L. Barron; **Honourable Mention:** Arabella Solomon Ding Arabella Farming Company.

Champion Junior Female: Arabella 1st Grade Ding Arabella Farming Company; **Reserve:** Ardylbar Classy Flora A.D. & S.L. Barron; **Honourable Mention:** Ardylbar Solomon Vicki A.D. & S.L. Barron.

breeders, the Holmes family (Arabella Holsteins).

The Senior Champion, Arabella Broke Tam, was Honourable Mention Junior Champion at EKKA in 2017. She stems from a long line of prominent Queensland show cows, back to one of Australia's premier brood cows, Tamrook Star Tammy-ET EX-4E STP 19* 4xM 1xF 1xP LIFE 3.

"My Champion was a top quality cow," judge Murray Polson said. "She was very well balanced, very youthful, and showed great quality through the bone. A beautiful young cow with a beautiful udder."

The classy junior 2-year-old Arabella Diamond Lynrose was named Intermediate Champion ahead of the Barron family's entry, Pooley Bridge Velvet Anne 91 in Reserve, with Arabella Solomon Ding named Honourable mention. The Junior Champion title went to another member of the Ding family, Arabella 1st Grade Ding, tracing back to the 2006 Brisbane Champion Arabella Gibson BlackDing EX-92-1E 2* 2xM 2xF 2xP.



DATAGENE



Have your say

Have your say about the breeding trait priorities for the Australian dairy industry by taking the survey for the National Breeding Objective (NBO) review.

The National Breeding Objective (NBO) describes the collective breeding priorities for Australian dairy herds and is expressed through DataGene's three breeding indices – Balanced Performance Index (BPI), Health Weighted Index (WHI) and Type Weighted Index (TWI).

Key themes for the review include: fat:protein ratio, longevity, fertility, feed efficiency, new traits, multiple indices and updating the base. The NBO discussion paper provides more details on these.

The NBO is reviewed every five years, so

don't miss the opportunity to have your say.

The survey closes 31 January 2020.

More information: www.datagene.com.au or Michelle Axford 0427 573 330 E.maxford@datagene.com.au

New board member

Genetics Australia CEO, Anthony Shelly was appointed to the board of DataGene at its Annual General Meeting in November.

Anthony has spent his entire 30-year career in dairy herd improvement, most of it with Genetics Australia and its precursor organisations.

Having held a wide range of roles within Genetics Australia, Anthony has an exceptional understanding of the application of herd improvement at all levels of business. He is also a non-executive director of the National Herd Improvement Association of Australia (NHIA).

He fills a vacancy on the board created by the departure of James Smallwood, general manager ABS Australia, who resigned due to changing responsibilities with the company.



2020 ABV release dates

- Tue 14 April
- Mon 19 Aug
- Mon 7 Dec



Anthony Shelly

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It takes innovation to reduce the carbon footprint

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Breeders celebrate Holstein breed

The Semex On Farm Challenge showcases not only the best of the Australian Holstein breed, but also the wonderful Australian Holstein industry. Judging this competition is a unique and intimate experience – being invited onto someone's farm to evaluate their life work and passion. Selecting the OFC team is often a 'round the kitchen table' family discussion, involving all family members and often staff members nominating their favourite cow to compete. The 2019 Competition was a great example of the diversity among the breed and breeders, with winners representing internationally recognised bloodlines, famous local bloodlines, historical bloodlines from the foundation of the breed, and exciting new bloodlines developed through the appendix system.

Katandra Park takes top WA award

Livestock agent and auctioneer Nick Flanagan judged the OFC for Western Australia. A passionate supporter of the competition, this was Nick's third OFC State level judging appointment.

"The On Farm Challenge is a wonderful concept, and full credit must go to Semex Australia and Holstein Australia for getting behind it," he said. "It's a huge effort by both organisations, and the volunteers, members and breeders that coordinate the competition. Its important people continue to support it by entering their cows and making the effort to get to the presentation dinners to ensure this fantastic competition's future."

Nick was looking for a modern Holstein as his Champion.

"I wanted to see balance. The modern cow needs to combine enough strength to compete under diverse conditions with the capacity to consume large amounts of feed, but with enough dairy refinement to show she has the will to milk."

Nick found these attributes at Don and Lorelle Fry's Master Breeder herd, Katandra Park Holsteins, crowning their 5-year-old entry, Katandra Park Reginald Mel App1 EX-91-1E as his 2019 Western Australian OFC Champion.

"My Champion was an impressive individual that was incredibly well balanced," Nick said. "She was an extreme dairy cow with loads of texture, but also showed the width and power of a modern dairy cow."

Nick gave Mel the advantage for her cleanliness through her bone and throat, and more volume, width and bloom to her rear udder, over the Reserve, the 4-year-old entry of the Kitchen family, Carenda Mainevent Vanda VG88.

Don and Lorelle Fry run a mixed herd of 140 Holsteins and Jerseys with their sons Lachlan and Corbin, on their 100ha leased property at Brunswick Junction, about two hours south of Perth on the south west coast. Lachlan heads the Katandra Park breeding program, with a focus on type, production and cow families.

Reginald Mel stems from a cow family developed via the appendix system, founded on the Sunspark Destiny daughter Katandra Park Destiny Melissa VG87 App4 4* 1xM 1xP LIFE 1. Melissa completed eight lactations with a lifetime total of 79,967 litres. Her Hill Valley Basar Acme (INFORMER) daughter, Katandra Park Informer Mel TW EX-91-1E App3 2* 2xM 2xP was a massive production cow, peaking at 12,996 litres and 935kg milk solids on her fourth lactation with a PI 130.

"When the Informer Mel classified EX-91, we started to take more notice of the family," Lachlan said. "She was a big milk cow and had such great texture, traits that are still coming through the line."

At EX-93 for dairy strength, and with a third lactation at 247 days of



Western Australia OFC Champion Cow 2019, Katandra Park Reginald Mel EX-91-1E, exhibited by Don, Lorelle, Lachlan & Corbin Fry, Katandra Park Holsteins.

9,500 litres with a PI 113, Reginald Mel has inherited her grand dam's combination of strength and texture as well as her will to milk.

"Mel has the great texture of the Informer, and a cracking EX-94 udder!" Lachlan says.

As the first member of the cow family in the show ring, Reginald Mel was an All Australian finalist in 2017 as a milking 2-year-old. In the lead up to the OFC, Queensland's Kelvin Cochrane named Mel as Champion Cow at the local Brunswick Holstein Feature, while a Val-Bisson BKM Doorman daughter of Mel, Katandra Park Doorman Mel, was Junior Champion at Brunswick in 2018.

Doorman Mel's first calf is due in January 2020, while Reginald Mel has been mated to the No.1 GPTAT sire of the breed for Red or Red Carriers, Lindenright Moovin RC.

State Over-Judging: WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Judge – Nick Flanagan, Strathfield Holsteins, Barooga NSW

Entries: 94 **Breeders:** 15

Champion: Katandra Park Reginald Mel, D.M. & L.M. Fry, Katandra Park Holsteins, Brunswick Junction

2-year-old – Carenda Bardo Vanda, Kitchen Farms, Carenda Holsteins, Boyanup; 2nd: Logue 1707, Harvey Agricultural College, Logue Holsteins, Harvey

3-year-old – 1st: Carenda Reactor Vanesha, Kitchen Farms, Carenda Holsteins, Boyanup; 2nd: Treeton Estate Maggie, G A & L E Jenkins, Treeton Holsteins, Cowaramup

4-year-old – 1st: Carenda Mainevent Vanda, Kitchen Farms, Carenda Holsteins, Boyanup; 2nd: Acero Raesmin-ET, D.M. & L.M. Fry, Katandra Park Holsteins, Brunswick Junction

5-year-old – 1st: Katandra Park Reginald Mel, D.M. & L.M. Fry, Katandra Park Holsteins, Brunswick Junction; 2nd: Hortin 1176, R & L Hortin

Mature – 1st: Angelis Reginald Franchesca, Angi Bros, Angelis Holsteins, Yarloop; 2nd: Elgin Dairies 1301, Darren L Merritt, Elgin Holsteins, Boyanup.

Fairvale's Melody tops the Tasmanian charts

The 4-year-old Mr Chassity Gold Chip daughter, Fairvale Goldchip Melody 797 VG86, has again put the great Melody cow family at Fairvale Holsteins in the spotlight, crowned Champion Cow for the Tasmanian State On Farm Challenge 2019.

In November 2017, enthusiastic breeders from across the country flocked to Tasmania to witness the 1st Stage Dispersal of Ross and Leanne Dobson's renowned two-time Master Breeder herd, Fairvale Holsteins. The sale topped at \$24,000 at an average of \$3,885, featuring many of the famous Fairvale cow families including the Bonnies, Josies, Butters and Melodys.

Since then, challenges within the dairy industry have deflated the market for quality dairy cows, so plans for the 2nd Stage Dispersal have been postponed until demand returns.

"We're milking 400 at the moment, and by next year we'll be back to the 460," Leanne said. "We'd like to finish up, but we're waiting until the mood in the industry is right."

A cow sold as Lot 254 at the sale, Fairvale Goldchip Melody 770 VG86, grabbed the nation's attention in January 2019 by winning Champion Holstein at International Dairy Week for her new owners, Abbey and Andrew Crawford, Coolea Holsteins NSW.

Despite their common name, a common ancestor between the two champion Melodys is found five generations back to a Quietcove Elevation Artist (QEAR) daughter born in 1989, Fairvale Artist Melody 159th VG89 STP 3* LIFE 2. The Melodys have been a prolific performer for the Dobsons with close to 1,000 Melodys bred at Fairvale to date, founded on a cow purchased from Jack French in 1960, Coraville White Melody. Goldchip Melody 797's dam, Fairvale Bolton Melody 674 EX-90-1E 1xEP 1xM 1xF 1xP was sold at the 2017 Dispersal, and now resides at Aroona Holsteins in the NSW South West Riverina district.

Selecting an OFC team each year always brings a lot of discussion at Fairvale – but for Leanne, Goldchip Melody 797 was her number one choice.

"For me she was the best we had in her age group," Leanne said. "She is so well balanced with a beautiful head that blends right through her neck and shoulders. And she is just so silky soft. She gives a lot of milk, but you can't see it, she has so much texture and carries it all so well."

"Plus she's got a wonderful personality. Nothing really fazes her – she just mopes around and looks for a pat," Leanne says.

Judging the OFC for Tasmania was NSW breeder, Cameron Yarnold. Sharefaming with his father Gary, Cameron has combined his Arrallik Holsteins with the Master Breeder Killara Park herd at Killawarra on the NSW mid north coast.

For his Champion, Cameron was looking for a cow in working form, with solid feet and legs and a quality udder. Like Leanne, Cameron was struck by Melody's great texture and balance, easily placing her first in her 4-year-old class and eventually Champion overall.

"She was the 'in-form' cow of the competition," Cameron said.



Tasmanian OFC Champion Cow 2019, Fairvale Goldchip Melody 797 VG86, exhibited by Ross and Leanne Dobson, Fairvale Holsteins.

"She was super correct and walked well on a great set of legs. She had great veination through her udder with super high and wide attachments, and was just a bit fuller throughout her frame with a bit more texture and bloom to her udder than the Reserve cow."

The Reserve Champion was the Geard family's mature entry, Benlargo Windbrook Ding 2 VG86.

Currently the Dobsons have a Walnutlawn Sidekick heifer from Goldchip Melody 797, with their newly crowned Champion confirmed pregnant to sexed Val-Bisson BK Doorman to calve in the autumn of 2020.

"Our herd keeps improving all the time with more heifers coming through each year," Leanne says. "We've had some breeders interested in buying Melody, but we're going to hang onto her for now, in the hope she can be a drawcard at our future dispersal."

State Over-Judging: TASMANIA

Judge – Cameron Yarnold, Arrallik Holsteins, Killawarra NSW

Entries: 114 **Breeders:** 15

Champion: Fairvale Goldchip Melody 797, R & L Dobson, Fairvale Holsteins, Bracknell

2-year-old – 1st: Fairvale Hightoctane Melody 844, R & L Dobson, Fairvale Holsteins, Bracknell; 2nd: Cradleview Halak Midge, K, T & J Walters, Cradleview Holsteins, Kindred

3-year-old – 1st: Garerley Hightoctane Candace, G & B Carpenter, Garerley Holsteins, Gunns Plains; 2nd: Byrnebury Guthrie Essie, M & L Fisher, Rustique Holsteins, Natone

4-year-old – 1st: Fairvale Goldchip Melody 797, R & L Dobson, Fairvale Holsteins, Bracknell; 2nd: Garerley 5G Leona, G & B Carpenter, Garerley Holsteins, Gunns Plains

5-year-old – 1st: Garerley Showman Jamie, G & B Carpenter, Garerley Holsteins, Gunns Plains; 2nd: Krisamdon Baltimor 4062, J & C Evans, Krisamdon Holsteins, Caveside

Mature – 1st: Benlargo Windbrook Ding 2, Geard Family, Green Glory Holsteins, Broadmarsh; 2nd: Murribrook Windhammer Candace, G & B Carpenter, Garerley Holsteins, Gunns Plains

Lightning Ridge Champion in 'smoking form'

The standard of competition at this year's South Australian On Farm Challenge was remarkable. From exciting newcomers like the winning 2-year-old, Coomboona Apples A Bambi-IMP-ET-RED VG86 to the two-time Royal Adelaide Champion, Mooway Destry Carmel EX92-2E, winning her State OFC class for the fourth consecutive year.

Despite the enviable line-up of talent, for judge David Patterson it was an easy decision to crown the 3-year-old Lightning Ridge Beemer Camilla-IMP-ET VG89 as his Champion.

"For such a young cow calved only a few weeks, she was in smoking form! She had incredible width of chest and capacity for her age, yet had tremendous cut to her bone and silky texture. And a smashing udder! It had height and width and welded on attachments," he said.

David was also impressed by Camilla's nature, watching her push around mature aged cows as she attempted to get into the feed at the dairy. "She had that aggression, capacity and willingness to compete and work. She was built to work – and you could see she wanted to work."

Imported as an embryo from the US by Lightning Ridge Genetics' Declan Patten, Camilla is a granddaughter of the 2011 World Dairy Expo Intermediate Champion, Silvermaple Damion Camomile EX-95 via her dam, Butlerview Door Camilla EX-92. During his time in the US, Declan worked at Butlerview as a Genetics Manager, working one-on-one with elite cows like Camomile and Door Camilla.

"I absolutely loved the Doorman. She was silky soft and all black, and probably the closest thing to Camomile herself," Declan said. "She was incredibly balanced with great rib and great legs, and an absolute stand out the year she went Madison."

For Declan, Beemer Camilla ticked all the boxes. She was from an elite cow family, and had a marketable pedigree filled with high genomic scores and high class scores.

As a VG87 2-year-old, Camilla was entered in the IDW World Wide Sires Evolution Sale in January 2019, where she made top price of \$16,000, selling to the New Zealand syndicate of Nathan and Amanda Bayne of Busy Brook Holsteins, their sharefarmer Pete Smit, and LIC Genetics Product Specialist, Gordon Fullerton.

"Prior to Camilla, purchasing animals overseas had not even crossed our minds," Gordon said. "But we saw Camilla as a unique opportunity to get our teeth into a wonderful family with a proven track record."

While Camilla's genetics may have great marketing potential, the group are excited by the prospect of bringing embryos back to New Zealand and having this great cow family make its mark on their herds in the future.

"We've had a great deal of enjoyment watching her development," Gordon says. "Classifying VG89 maximum for her age, followed by an outstanding OFC result has given us a real rush of excitement."

Since the sale, Camilla has been housed at Windy Vale Holsteins at Myponga on South Australia's Fleurieu Peninsula, where she is managed by Geoff Hutchinson, and herd manager Rob Walmsley.



SA OFC Champion Cow 2019, Lightning Ridge Beemer Camilla-IMP-ET VG89, exhibited by Nathan & Amanda Bayne, Pete Smit & Gordon Fullerton, New Zealand.

"Rob and the team at Windy Vale have done an exceptional job looking after Camilla, getting her calved in and performing how she is," Gordon said. "They deserve all the credit for keeping her in such great form."

Running with the 200 head Master Breeder herd, Camilla tested at 40 days producing 45 litres with 3% protein and 2.6% fat, and has become a herd favourite at Windy Vale.

"We have 'no pets or prisoners' here," Rob says. "She has been an easy hassle-free cow to work with, coming in the first row every milking since the day she arrived. She's the sort of cow you would be happy to milk 200 of. She's milking hard with a low cell count, has matured nicely and balanced out really well since calving."

Preparations for an IDW campaign will begin soon, while planning has also begun for a flush program early in the new year. "Initially we looked to Camilla as a potential brood cow, but we are all equally thrilled to be having a cow at 'the big dance,'" Gordon said. "We can't wait to see where she takes us on this exciting journey."

State Over-Judging: SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Judge – David Patterson, Elders Warrnambool VIC

Entries: 164 **Breeders:** 23

Champion: Lightning Ridge Beemer Camilla-IMP-ET, N & A Bayne & Partners, New Zealand

2-year-old – 1st: Coomboona Apples A Bambi-IMP-ET-RED, Robsvue Holsteins & Windy Vale Holsteins; 2nd: Newlyn Park Numero Miranda, H A Newman & Co, Newlyn Park Holsteins, Meadows

3-year-old – 1st: Lightning Ridge Beemer Camilla-IMP-ET, N & A Bayne & Partners, New Zealand; 2nd: Billabong Seaver Kitty, Billabong Holsteins Pty Ltd, Woods Point

4-year-old – 1st: Glenunga Goldchip Sandmaid, Glenunga Proprietors, Glenunga Holsteins, Moculta; 2nd: Blackwood Park Golddust Georgie 7478, J C Altmann & Son, Dakara Farms, Murray Bridge

5-year-old – 1st: Mooway Destry Carmel, Glendalyn Pty Ltd, Mooway Holsteins, Victor Harbor; 2nd: Jervois Libra Gillian, CG & FD Mason, Jervois Holsteins, Taillem Bend

Mature – 1st: Misty Brae Breeza Penny, Misty Brae Holsteins Pty Ltd, Myponga; 2nd: Misty Brae Guard Diana, Misty Brae Holsteins Pty Ltd, Myponga

Arabella Farms stars in Queensland

As a long serving committee member and past sub-branch president, Master Breeder Paul Allott has had a lot of experience as an organiser of the Semex On Farm Challenge. However, officiating over the Queensland State OFC Finals was Paul's first OFC judging appointment.

"I got to see the best of everyone's herds and saw some amazing cows," he said. "And I got to travel through places I'd only ever heard about, but never had the chance to go to. I saw some great country, and different styles of farming, and visited areas I had no idea had dairy cows!"

Paul milks a mixed 420-cow herd of registered Holsteins, Brown Swiss and Jerseys with his partner Emma Spedding at Strathmerton in Northern Victoria. With a focus on high type and deep proven cow families, Paul received his Master Breeder Award in 2019 for his stud Waltopso Holsteins.

For Paul, his Champion needed to be a genuine cow – the type of cow that worked, that was sound, would last a long time, and the type a farmer loves to milk.

"I'm looking for that good functional and balanced cow," he said. "I like seeing a strong, well attached udder with good texture, and they need to walk confidently on a good set of legs."

Paul found his Champion in the mature cow class, with the 6-year-old Arabella Daryl Edelga VG85.

"My mature cow was an absolutely ripping cow!" Paul said. "She had massive body capacity with great width that started at her muzzle and blended right through from head to tail. And that udder! It was super soft and all quality!"

The Champion was entered by Arabella Farms, who also exhibited the second-placed mature cow and best udder, Arabella Braxton Roxy, and the winning 2-year-old Arabella Diamond Lynrose.

"The 2-year-old was a walk-in winner!" Paul said. "She had great width and balance and maturity for a young cow. I think she has a pretty bright future."

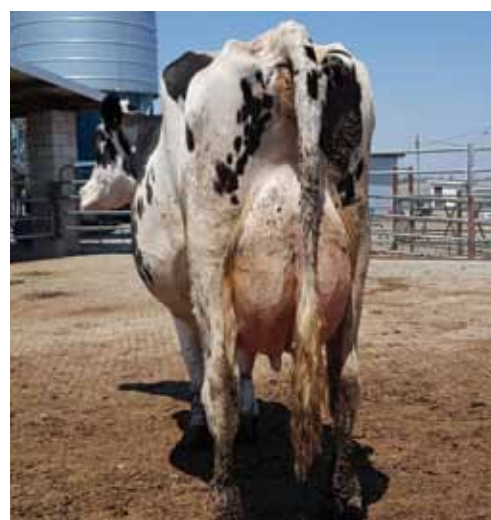
The large Arabella herd is run by Daniel Holmes and his family at Brookstead, about an hour's drive west of Toowoomba in Queensland's Darling Downs. A regular competitor of the OFC and local shows, the Holmes family recently returned from a successful Royal Show campaign at Brisbane, bringing home all three major Holstein titles.

The Edelga line came to Arabella among a line of cows purchased from the Cooper family of Donegal Holsteins. Sired by Scientific Daryl, and boasting an all-Semex sire stack, Edelga traces via a Comestar Outside, a Hanalee Concerto and Hanoverhill Black Jack, to the great Ingoldale Edelga EX-3E STP LIFE 3, bred by two-time Master Breeder Jim and Dot Gilmore.

Famous for producing the great sire Ingolston Squire, the Gilmore's 'E' family is considered one of the foundation bloodlines of the Australian Holstein, with many of today's greats featuring a cross of Squire deep in their pedigree.



ABOVE and RIGHT: Queensland OFC Champion Cow 2019, Arabella Daryl Edelga VG85, exhibited by the Holmes family, Arabella Farming Co, Arabella Holsteins, Brookstead.



State Over-Judging: QUEENSLAND

Judge – Paul Allott, Waltopso Holsteins, Strathmerton VIC

Champion: Arabella Daryl Edelga, D Holmes, Arabella Holsteins, Brookstead

2-year-old – 1st: Arabella Diamond Lynrose, Arabella Farming Co, Arabella Holsteins, Brookstead; 2nd: Clarkdale Sympatico Letitia, Clark Partnership, Clarkdale Holsteins, Caniaba

3-year-old – 1st: Gilabils Taylormade Bender, Stewart Family, Gilabils Holsteins, Canning Vale; 2nd: Clarkdale McCutchen Bronze, Clark Partnership, Clarkdale Holsteins, Caniaba

4-year-old – 1st: Clarkdale Redburst Paris, Clark Partnership, Clarkdale Holsteins, Caniaba; 2nd: Adadale Explode Janet, S & S Paulger, Adadale Holsteins, Kenilworth

5-year-old – 1st: Clarkdale Defiant Bronze – Clark Partnership, Clarkdale Holsteins, Caniaba; 2nd: Promenade Dorcy Toni 3 – Promenade Genetics, Promenade Holsteins, Millaa Millaa

Mature – 1st: Arabella Daryl Edelga, Arabella Farming Co, Arabella Holsteins, Brookstead; 2nd: Arabella Braxton Roxy, Arabella Farming Co, Arabella Holsteins, Brookstead

Glomar wins Supreme Champion award

The two-time Royal Melbourne Champion and All Australian, Glomar McCutchen Annecy 5506 VG87, added the Jim Conroy Award to her long list of accolades when she was crowned On Farm Challenge Champion Cow for 2019 at the Victoria, South-East South Australia and Southern Riverina State Finals, during the annual luncheon hosted at the Wichmount Winery Estate in Melton, Victoria.

The 4-year-old, owned by Master Breeders Rob and Lynette Johnston of Glomar Holsteins, out-classed the 1,136 Holstein entries from 150 breeders across nine Holstein sub-branches, to receive the title from over-judge Lisa McKay, Linsand Holsteins and Jerseys.

Lisa manages her 200-cow herd with husband Willy McKay on their farm in Irrewillipe, 20km south of Colac in Victoria's south west. The couple have owned and exhibited three IDW Supreme Champions and various All-Australian and On Farm Challenge winners, most notably the acclaimed Fairvale Morty Lady 51 EX97-5E STP 3* 3xM 2xF 2xP LIFE 2.

Lisa's passion for stud dairy cows has allowed her to travel extensively throughout Australia and North America, working for numerous breeders both on farm and at shows and sales. Lisa has received judging appointments at major events in every State.

Strong, long lasting udders are very important for Lisa when placing her winners, particularly the strength of the attachments, the height of carriage and overall texture of the mammary systems.

"The udders throughout the competition were very strong. Particularly the top few cows in each class all had great mammary systems," she said. "I loved the dairy quality and youthfulness of my champion's udder. It was very snug with a strong seam and blended well onto the body."

Lisa was also impressed by Annecy's texture, sharp bone and style, making it easy to select her as Champion.

"The winning 4-year-old was the most in-form cow of the competition. She was very long from end to end, and had the sharpest bone and the most angularity of all the cows I saw during the competition," she said.

Glomar's Justin Johnston has campaigned Annecy heavily the last few years with great success. Named All Australian 2-year-old in 2018, Annecy has wins at Royal Melbourne and International Dairy Week, as well as the local shows, including the recent East Gippsland Spring Holstein Feature at Sale, where she was named Supreme Champion under judge Nicola Templeton, View Fort Holsteins. Preparation is under way for IDW in January 2020.

Milking 500 cows in East Gippsland, mid-way between Maffra and Sale, at their family farm at Bundalaguah, the Johnstons "don't like lazy cows", with a strong focus on production and fertility. As a 4-year-old calving for the third time in July, Rob Johnston was quick to praise Annecy's performance in the herd.

"Annecy gets in calf straight away, gives plenty of milk, has a great udder and a wonderful temperament," Rob says. "She can be a bit of a boss and likes to get her own way, but she has a gentle nature, so is an easy cow to manage and real pleasure to have in the herd."

A De-Su BKM McCutchen daughter of Glomar Shamrock Annecy



Victoria, South-East South Australia and Southern Riverina OFC Champion Cow 2019 – Jim Conroy Award, Glomar McCutchen Annecy 5506 VG87, exhibited by Rob & Lynette Johnston and family, Glomar Holsteins.

4832 EX-90-2E, McCutchen Annecy traces back to a European branch of the acclaimed Chief Faith family, via her fourth dam, Eureka Fatal Annecy -IMP-ET VG89 1xEP. Fatal Annecy was purchased in 1997 at the Genetics Australia Eureka Sale, for \$14,000 as a 2-month-old calf. "At the time Fatal Annecy was the best-bred calf to come out of Holland," Rob said.

A daughter of Etazon Annecy-ET VG, the maternal sister to the popular sire Plushanski Thor Cutter, the Annecys belong to the internationally acclaimed cow family founded on the Holstein matriarch Plushanski Chief Faith EX-4E. Renowned for producing both successful bull mothers and top level show cows, other Australian Chief Faith descendants include high impact Holsteins such as Carenda Gibbon Fame-ET VG88 14* and her full brother Carenda Fabulon (FABULON), Strathaire Boudewijn Antzy-ET EX1E 5* 1xM, and exciting newcomer and Royal Adelaide Champion Benlargo Sid Furry VG89.

State Over-Judging: SOUTH-EASTERN AUSTRALIA

Judge – Lisa McKay, Linsand Holsteins, Irrewillipe, Victoria

Entries: 1,136 **Breeders:** 150

SUPREME CHAMPION JIM CONROY AWARD: Glomar McCutchen Annecy 5506, R. Johnston, Glomar Holsteins, Bundalaguah

2-year-old – 1st: Calivil Park Mario Ellie 4885, Culton Family, Calivil Park Holsteins, Nathalia; 2nd: Rockwood Park McCutchen Brigeen, F. Sorraghan & C Smith, Rockwood Park Holsteins, Wagga Wagga

3-year-old – 1st: Bluechip MP Mogul Cretonne, Dylan McDonald, McDonald Holsteins, Devon Meadows; 2nd: Panatana Doorman Charm, J P Colwell, Southbank Holsteins, Irrewillipe East

4-year-old – 1st: Glomar McCutchen Annecy 5506, R. Johnston, Glomar Holsteins, Bundalaguah; 2nd: True Blue Dempsey Jodene, T & M Somerville, True Blue Holsteins, Goomalibee

5-year-old – 1st: Eagle Ridge Amazing G Pollyanna, R.K. & J.R Gordon, Gorbros Holsteins Cohuna; 2nd: Avonlea Reginald Fan, J.H & C.J. Gardiner, Avonlea Holsteins, Cardinia

Mature – 1st: Eclipse Atwood Paradise-ET, R & J Easterbrook, Whyndell Holsteins, Tatura; 2nd: Absolute 3198, NG & JM Lucas, Motobird Holsteins, Carlisle River

Newcomer wins NSW Championship

Competing against the best in the State, newcomer Calderwood Goldendreams Pam-ET VG86 has swept the On Farm Challenge finals in New South Wales, taking the coveted State Champion title for 2019.

Exhibited by Jim Strong, Strongbark Holsteins, Pam originated from the Calderwood herd of Michael and Kassie Finch. Situated along the Marshall Mount Creek at Albion Park in the Shellharbour region off the NSW South Coast, the Finch family farm has been sold to developers with the Calderwood herd being gradually dispersed.

Backed by decades of quality AI breeding, the Calderwood herd was well regarded for its high type and impressive production figures. Sired by Heavenly Golden Dreams out of an EX-90-1E Silky Gibson, Pam's pedigree is filled with herd leading PIs and top-level production, with her granddam, Calderwood Blackjack Pam producing five consecutive lactations over 10,000 litres with a lifetime record of 87,808 litres.

Jim Strong and his wife Karen milk about 200 cows on their 80ha lease property at Tullimbar, just a few kilometres from the Finchs. A very keen showman, Strongbark Holsteins have dominated many big shows in NSW and Victoria, in particular Sydney's Easter Royal Show, where Jim's Candy family boasts generations of Grand Champion titles.

Known for having a keen eye for great cows, Master Breeder Jim Strong saw an opportunity, and after walking through the Calderwood herd, he selected a pair of rising 4-year-olds by Heavenly Golden Dreams - Calderwood Goldendreams Marg 2nd - TW VG87 and Calderwood Goldendreams Pam-ET VG86.

In September, the older of the pair, Goldendreams Marg 2nd, went to Nowra for the NSW State Show where her sleek balanced frame, and quality udder saw her win Champion Cow under judge John Gardiner. Then in November, Goldendreams Pam caught the eye of renowned US breeder, Bill Stolfus of Wilonna Holsteins, when he placed her at the top of the 4-year-old class in the South Coast and Tablelands Sub-branch OFC. A big fan of the Australian competition and the Australian Holstein, Bill relished the opportunity to judge the sub branch OFC, admiring Pam's deep angular frame and quality mammary.

The over-judge for NSW was long serving Holstein committee member and Elders Livestock Dairy Specialist, Lindsay Moxey. Having previously judged every sub-branch OFC in NSW, Lindsay was thrilled when asked to officiate this year's State level competition.

"It's such a fantastic competition," Lindsay said. "It's great to visit so many different farms and see such quality dairy cows. Everyone does a great job running the competition each year – it's a lot of work and I can't thank them enough."

Excited by the style and correctness of his winning four-year-old, Lindsay was confident in his decision for Champion. "My Champion



New South Wales State Final OFC Champion 2019, Calderwood Goldendreams Pam-ET VG86, exhibited by Jim Strong, Strongbark Holsteins, Albion Park NSW

was something special - I wouldn't want to change anything on this cow," he said. "I love 'em dairy – and she was ultra-dairy and as clean as clean as clean! There was not an ounce of coarseness anywhere on this cow."

"She also walked on a great set of legs and her udder was superb, with an absolutely perfect fore attachment. She had a very correct rump and beautifully refined frame that will continue to develop. Plus she's only a baby 4-year-old – the best of her is still to come."

State Over-Judging: NEW SOUTH WALES

Judge – Lindsay Moxey, Elders Livestock Dairy Specialist, NSW

Entries: 640 **Breeders:** 87

Champion: Champion: Calderwood Goldendreams Pam-ET VG86, Jim Strong, Strongbark Holsteins, Albion Park NSW

2-year-old – 1st: Cairnsdale Absolute Red Delight-RED, Menzies Farms, Cairnsdale Holsteins, Numbaa; 2nd: Mario Park Solomons Midas, Murray & Jane Polson, Mario Park Holsteins, Oxley Island

3-year-old – 1st: Broughton Atwood D Simola, N & E Strong, Broughton Holsteins, Jamberoo; 2nd: Strongbark Arc Candy, Jim Strong, Strongbark Holsteins, Albion Park

4-year-old – 1st: Calderwood Goldendreams Pam-ET, Jim Strong, Strongbark Holsteins, Albion Park; 2nd: Cumberoona Atwood Aleese, C P & S J Walsh & family, Waljasper Holsteins, Jaspers Brush

5-year-old – 1st: Mario Park Braxton Fanny, Murray & Jane Polson, Mario Park Holsteins, Oxley Island; 2nd: Oxley Vale ERB Piebe, Cameron & Ashley Yarnold, Arrilik Holsteins, Killawarra

Mature – 1st: Kenmar Aaron Fan, K L & M A Atkins, Kenmar Holsteins, Tamworth; 2nd: Halewood Buckeye Poetry, Hassett family, Halewood, Maison Dieu

Farewell Harley Gardiner

The Holstein community was saddened to hear of the passing of Harley Gardiner, Avonlea Holsteins. The following obituary was prepared by Brian Leslie.

Harley founded Avonlea in 1948 near Colac and not long after moved to Carrum Downs with some daughters of the great imported English Bull Manningford, Camelia Ephos. He used several sons of these cows.

Harley then introduced the Glenjoy bulls from SA: Raelene Duke 5, Belinda Duke 2 then Darkie Dreamboy 2. They were all sons of Ettrick Josephine Duke. Harley line-bred to these bulls and they cemented tremendous butter fat percentage into the herd. Darkie Dreamboy 2 became a Gold Medal Sire in 1973 and then went into AI. This foundation soon made Avonlea one of the highest butterfat herds in Australia.

Harley also selected females by this sire, including Glenjoy Duke Blotch 8. Her daughter Avonlea Blotch was one of, if not the first, cow in Australia to have two EX daughters in the show champions SK Blotch and Dividend Blotch. Harley also purchased Glenjoy Duke Tulip 8 and she was the dam of Avonlea Frasea Tulip who won Junior Champion at Pakenham 1970, Champion Cow at Neerim 1971 and Supreme Champion Cow of all Gippsland shows at Bunyip 1972 and 1973; she won a total of 14 Champions.

Avonlea Songbird, VG88 was one of his first show cows and won Champion Cow and All Breeds at Colac Feature Show in 1967.

Harley was always on the lookout for better genetics for Avonlea. In 1970, only months after the lifting of the ban to import cattle from NZ, he purchased Longbeach Morning Star from the oldest established herd in NZ for \$2300 at the Diamond Jubilee Sale. This equates to \$27,000 today. She won Champion Cow at Lang Lang 1971. Her daughter, Avonlea Morning Glory by Darkie Dreamboy, won Supreme Champion of Gippsland in 1977. I well recall Harley leading her under judge Vic Wallace at the Bunyip Show. Then her granddaughter NB Mist won Champion Cow at Foster Feature under David Kerber, Champion at Lang Lang Feature under Ivan Strickler, USA, Champion at Shepparton National under Brian Vallenge and Gippsland Fair under Les Ward. another daughter PK Star won junior Champion Melbourne in 1977 and so many more.

Harley also imported Pitcairns Ivan Punch from NZ. He won Junior Champion Bull at Daylston etc. Pitcairns PI Ileen, EX was also a very successful show cow. So was Turepo Righto who won 3 yo in Melbourne Royal 1973 and sired TR Min Supreme Champion of Gippsland.

He bought Waiori Sheik Jacobinia in the mid '80s. She was a daughter of Puget Sound Sheik, an American bull not available in Australia. She became Australia's highest Star Brood Cow.

He bought daughters of Warden who also at the time wasn't available here. They stood first and second at Melbourne in 1985. All the time Harley was on the lookout for the world's best genetics for Avonlea.



Harley Gardiner, with his wife, Valmai.

When the imports could come from Canada, Harley bought Walkerbrae Valiant Beth. I'll never forget the Canadian breeders telling me that he tipped her upside down and looked underneath to see if he thought she would udder. She went on to go EX-2E and had two EX and four VG daughters including IDW Intermediate Champ Warden Beth. So I guess Harley knew what he was doing!

Harley first exhibited at Melbourne Royal in 1973 and won Junior Champion and Reserve Senior Champion Bull with Avonlea Lincoln Dividend. Also, that year the herd average of 603 pounds of butterfat was a record for herds of more than 100 cows.

In 1974 Harley held his first annual sale. These continued until 1991, their 18th and final annual sale. The Avonlea sales were always among the very best in Australia, with tremendous demand for bulls due to the terrific butterfat percentage backing and of course the bulls' own type. Usually he would sell several bulls that had been shown and had already won champions.

In 1975 they were awarded their first EX cows: Frasea Tulip and SK Blotch. Who knows how many came from then? In 1975 he also first exhibited at Shepparton National where he showed until 1984 to win Champion Cow twice to win seven Champions and five Reserves.

In 1976, Avonlea was Australia's top classified herd with more than 100 cows.

In 1977, Harley showed at Whittlesea Feature show and the same day John Showed at Bairnsdale Feature Show; that's how keen Harley was to show his Avonlea Holsteins. That year Harley paid \$200 at a local sale for Meadow Bank Linmack Connie 2. She won the 4-year-old at Melbourne Royal that same year and became one of the greatest brood cows at Avonlea with several progeny winning many Champions at Royal Shows from Melbourne through to Brisbane.

In that era Harley bred Avonlea Nobleman who was by Linmack from a Glenjoy Raelene Duke 5th cow with 5.2% fat. He sired tremendous cows including one of Harley's favourites, Noble Min 3rd, who was Champion at Shepparton National in 1983.

In 1978, Harley won Junior Champion at Melbourne Royal for the third year in succession. This time it was with Avonlea Marquis Essie. She was certainly one of Harley's favourites and went on to win many Champion Cow awards at big feature shows throughout Gippsland. Her daughter Avonlea KB Essie also won Junior Champion at Melbourne Royal and another daughter won Champion Cow at the Brisbane Royal.

In 1981, Harley had the top herd in Victoria for the eighth year in row. The same year Avonlea won its first All Australian with Lin Blotch 2-year-old in milk – the first of many. Avonlea has won the Premier exhibitor of the All Australian section many times.

In 1989 Avonlea won its first Melbourne Champion Cow with Avonlea Ultimate Connie. I clearly recall Harley's speech that night at the show dinner saying it was something he had always aspired to win. It was the first of six Melbourne Royal Champion Cow awards for Avonlea.

Indeed, Avonlea won the All Breeds Pen of 3 seven times. In total from 27 showings at Melbourne Avonlea won no less than 46 Champions and 19 Reserves plus members of many winning All Breeds Groups. Avonlea was the Most Successful Holstein Exhibitor 12 times.

The Master Breeder award was introduced in 1992. Harley was the second person to receive this prestige award. Indeed the partnership of HT, V and J Gardiner was one of only a handful to receive the award twice.

Harley – known for his porkpie hat and dark glasses – was always well presented. He achieved an enormous amount in the dairy industry and always had the amazing support of his wife and family.

I texted a mate of mine in South Australia to tell of Harley's passing, the response was two words: Great Man.

HJ

Geoffrey James Bawden

12.05.1952 – 19.09.2019

Former West Gippsland Sub-branch President, Holstein Australia classifier and active Northern Victorian Sub-branch member, Geoffrey 'Bawdo' Bawden passed away from pancreatic cancer in September.

Developing a passion for black and white dairy cows at a young age, he and first wife, Heather, started their Woorayal



Park Holstein herd from Frank Nichols Hughesdale Stud, Geoff breeding his favourite cow family, the Sharons, from these original cows. Geoff also had a love of the show ring, exhibiting almost every year at the Royal Melbourne from 1973 through to the early 2000s and judging the Royal Hobart Show, among others.

Never scared of a hard day's work, Geoff passed his passion for farming and the Holstein breed onto his children Glen, Cam and Clayton. A devoted father and grandfather to Lily, Scarlett, Ainsley, Reilley, Dillon and Austin, Geoff was pre-deceased by his second wife, Julie, who he married in 2013.

Vale John Mackie

Close to the *Journal* going to press, we were informed of the passing of John Mackie (Burn-Brae, East Gippsland).

John was well-known and respected throughout the East Gippsland community and beyond. He was an active and passionate Holstein Australia member of 50 years and a former President of South Gippsland Sub-branch of Holstein Australia. The family were active on the show circuit, at times with three generations in attendance. John and Marilyn were married for 52 years and had three sons and six grandchildren.



This photograph of John was taken at the recent Holstein Australia National Awards Dinner.

Born onto a dairy farm in Meenyan, John started milking a herd of 'all sorts' when he finished high school. In the mid-'60s, a local stock agent suggested a Friesian bull would improve the herd and that was the start of the transition to black and whites.

After marrying Marilyn, they started Burn-Brae stud in 1969. They got involved in all aspects of having registered cattle, including classifying, herd testing and showing.

The first animal they bought was Gwenalan Alana from Alan Hosking. One of her descendants was one of their best cows, Burn Brae DC Heather VG89. Other cows were bought from Avonlea, Wandilla and Tassie Studs.

At the Wiabuna sale in 1979, the top-priced bull Wiabuna Harvester Kriss was bought to be the new herd sire. He had a big influence on their herd, especially loved for their temperament.

In 1984, the milking herd was dispersed to enable them to follow a different path and buy a new school bus. Soon this expanded and charter work took them all over Australia.

Many Holsteins breeders would remember John from one of the many farm tours that he and Marilyn took. Many students of the Youth Camps would remember travelling on a Mackie's bus.

John took much pleasure in watching Andrew and Stuart recommence Burn-Brae in 1993, milking again on the home farm, which has been in the family since the 1880s.

Four of his six grandkids have also enjoyed showing at the local shows and IDW which enabled him to catch up with fellow breeders. John and Marilyn were at the recent Holstein Australia AGM at Inverloch and enjoyed catching up with fellow breeders from all over Australia.

We join the rest of the Holstein Community in sending our deepest sympathy to the Mackie family.

HJ

Solney Holsteins



Allan, Frances and Eddie Jefford (Solney)

Cloverlea - Gippsland, Victoria

Master Breeders 2018

Information supplied by Eddie Jefford

The Solney herd was established by Henry and May Jefford during World War 2 in Derbyshire at Newton Solney, which is in the middle of England. Their son Allan, and wife Frances, took over from 1963-1980 milking 80 British Friesians before moving to Australia with their three children Sandra, Edward and Michael. They took 24 heifers and a bull to re-establish their British Friesian herd. The Jeffords registered Solney in Australia setting up on a very fertile, irrigated farm in the Hunter Valley at Denman. In 1984, they moved to Gippsland Victoria, with better natural rainfall and more suited to their farming style. Their operation is currently over four blocks, the home farm on 365ha, two beef blocks covering 92ha and a final 99ha for dairy replacements. The Jeffords rear all calves that are born; the heifers are either introduced to the herd, sold as young milkers or – when the market dictates – sold on the export market. About 60 yearling breeding bulls are sold each year with some clients still buying 35 years later. The rest of the bull calves are steered

Farm facts

Farm size: 365 ha

Herd size: 200-250 year round milkers

Calving pattern: Late February to November

Herd production: 7,500 L, 4.5% F, 3.6% P

Females bred: 1,532

EX: 44F 1M

VG: 332F 6M

SBC: 83

STP: 114

Production awards: 82

Lifetime production awards: 82

Points required: 1532

Points earned: 2899

and fattened to about 26-30 months and sold directly to JBS for up to \$2000, a good return on a week-old calf worth \$50 at the market. Today, Allan and Frances have mostly handed over the reins to Eddie who is helped by three full time employees, although Allan always has an eye on the cows and stays busy on maintenance.

Breeding goals: Our breeding goals have always been medium sized strong cows, with an emphasis on fertility which in turn gives us longevity, and combined with high components give us a very profitable cow. Many of our herd achieve our 100,000-litre

lifetime production goal over eight to 13 lactations.

Cow families important in your herd?

Our core in 1980, were heifers from our original herd, from the Wilowna herd and eight heifers and a bull from the famous Lord Rayleigh, Strutt and Parkers Terling and Lavenham Farms. Some of the original cow families from the Solney herd in the UK remain strong today: Jest, Clara, Gleam and Daphnes. The Johannas were introduced later as well as the Dinahs of Wilowna. The Terling Torch and Lavenham Fannie families trace back to the original British Friesian Herd Book of 1909. The Lavenham Babys and Greys have also left their mark.

Cows you bred that you are proud of:

Solney is particularly proud that we have had 18 cows that have produced 100,000 litres or more in their lifetime, a true sign of achieving our breeding goals. Also, we have bred Excellent cows. Some of the stand outs are Solney Frigate Dinah 3rd EX-7E and Solney Dee Johanna EX-5E. Solney Catlane Jest 2 is a young cow that is showing great promise with 7721 litres 4.8% milk fat, 3.6% protein and VG86 on her second lactation. Her dam Donn Jest EX-90-2E produced 9068 litres, 5.18% milk fat 3.75% protein and Solney SSB Jest EX-

Eddie Jefford, with daughters Elanor, Matilda, and Harriet, and wife Monique.

Photograph: The Weekly Times





4E produced 10,148 litres, 4.65% milk fat, 3.35% protein. Her great grand dam Solney Sand Jest EX-4E also stood out.

Bulls in your herd: Bulls that were of considerable influence in the early days included Holmside Wassenar, Dignit Setsqare, Holmside Standby and Crosswell Conquest. Bulls used in Australia with significant influence include Grove Helmsman, Solney Helmsman, Lavenham Frigate, Lakemead Rancher.

The onset of foot and mouth disease and BSE in the UK meant all semen imports were banned so we had some great success with bulls such as Newway, Holim Boudewijn, Wiabuna Sandman Justin and Skalsumer Sunny Boy.

Highlights of your dairying life? Since moving to Australia, we have met many people within the industry and have made many great friends. We have learnt a lot and met some unbelievably good farmers. The move here has been amazingly good to us all.



Two outstanding cows in the current herd: Solney Wijn Duchess (left) and Solney Frosty Dinah. Duchess is on her 12th lactation having produced 110,000 litres at 4.55% BF 3.62% P and Dinah on her 11th lactation having also produced 100,000 litres.

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Around the UK in 30 days

Less than 48 hours after his Maffra football team won the Gippsland League Reserves Grand Final, Wilara Holsteins' Oakley Henry was on a farm 16,900 km from home with Holstein UK classifier Iwan Thomas at the beginning of his Holstein UK exchange. Here he reflects on his trip.

One of the things I found interesting was a focus on breeding for Type more than Index on many of the farms I visited. I think part of the reason is the show focus of these farms. But there are also some key differences in milk supply that I think contribute to this.

A high percentage of UK dairy farmers, around 85%, are paid on volume rather than components like fat and protein. Some of the big supermarkets don't worry about protein percentage at all. That is a really big difference to the bonuses Australian farmers can receive for higher protein and greater fat content.

The Index breeders I visited were firmly focused on fertility and production to meet supply chain demands. My impression is that this is part of a trend in the UK, with many pedigree farmers shifting their breeding goals towards commercially viable animals, concentrating more on components than traits such as size and structure.

Animal welfare

One of the big drivers for uptake in use of sexed-semen in the UK is animal welfare, specifically around male calves.

While I was in the UK, Morrisons, one of the UK's big four supermarkets, introduced a scheme to guarantee a market for all male calves born on its suppliers' farms, requiring farmers to rear the calves to a certain weight at between 15 and 40 days of age. These farmers, members of Arla UK 360 (a standards scheme), will be able to sell male calves to a beef company that processes them into products such as rose veal.

Other major retailers, including Sainsbury's, the Co-op and Waitrose also run schemes to collect calves from their dairy suppliers and ensure they are reared.

While schemes like this can only be good in animal welfare terms, initial indications are that they still come at quite a cost for farmers, despite the guaranteed market for

the calves. This has led to the increase in demand for sexed-semen in the UK.

Another animal welfare issue in the UK that we don't have to deal with so much in Australia is animal lameness and its impact on longevity and productivity. It made me realise the distances our cows walk out here. Twice yearly foot trimming seemed to be the norm in England, with foot health being a particular issue as cows spend much of the year on concrete and don't walk the kind of distances required to wear feet down naturally.

Holstein Young Breeders

I was blown away by cow numbers at UK shows. A local calf show might get 45 or 50 head of cattle; at the Dairy Show there were around 140 head across all breeds and at the All Breeds All Britain Show upwards of 200 head.

At the Dairy Show I worked with Olly Reed from Beaconhill Holsteins and Matt House from Chedhunt Holsteins who had a very successful event with Olly winning Interbreed Junior Champion and Matt Reserve Senior Champion.

I was also impressed with the Holstein Young Breeders (HYB) community, the way

the organisation is run and the numbers of people involved. Part of this will be down to the high population in the UK, but it seemed to be run very much by young people for young people – a real strength of the program.

HYB attracts good industry funding, and they have a lot of different programs – from leadership events to exchanges and everything in between – with an emphasis on career progression and future career pathways. It also plays a really important role in helping to create an incredibly strong dairy community – everyone knows everyone and people are willing to help each other out at a moment's notice. There's a real sense of belonging.

My final weekend was spent with Staffordshire Young Breeders at the All Breeds All Britain Calf Show. One of the highlights was getting to work with and lead the cow that ultimately won the Red & White Championship.

There was a real focus on skills development in calf preparation and showmanship for the competitors, as well as a great social side to the whole event. The level of competition was very high, and although extremely competitive and hard work, there was also a real sense of comradeship and fun. It was a great end to my trip. Many thanks to HYB and Staffordshire Young Breeders for the experience.

The UK's dairy regions

One of the great things about the trip was visiting every part of the UK. Scotland and Northern Ireland made a real impression, and I'd like to get back there some day.

In Northern Ireland farms and herd sizes



Oakley Henry helping out in the ring as part of his Holstein UK exchange.



were smaller than elsewhere in the UK – about 70 to 80 cows – but the Gregg family's Frocess Holsteins, where I stayed, was bigger at 170 cows. Wallace and Joan Gregg have four kids, including 11-year-old Bella, who was super keen on the farm, telling me everything I needed to know, including all the detail on their Dairymaster 24 swing-over parlour.

I visited a number of other farms here, including one with robots milking 180 cows with three robots broken up into groups of 60 fresh mature cows, 60 fresh 2-year-olds and 60 stale cows. Another highlight was visiting the McLean family's Relough herd, Northern Ireland Herd Competition winners, with some great type and show animals including three EX-95 Shottle cows.

Scotland's Northshields Holsteins was a step up in numbers, with 400 cows milked in a 40-unit rotary with all-year calving. Andrew and Pat Wilson farm 344 ha alongside James, Andrew's brother, and his family, who run 120 beef cows.


They grow rye grass for silage, have grazing land for the beef cows and heifers, barley for whole crop silage and for grain, with an additional 24 ha of fodder beet for the cows over the winter.

Biosecurity

I was fortunate to visit the Genus bull stud and laboratory and see first-hand the entire semen production process from collection to manufacturing and freezing.

One thing this visit really bought home is the high level of biosecurity in the UK. I was aware of the UK cow passport system and requirements around these before I arrived but wasn't aware of things like the 60 to 120 day quarantine requirements for dairy cattle in certain situations.

My visit to Genus had to be carefully timed as they had a 48-hour restriction between being on farm and visiting their facility. At the stud, I had to change protective clothing to visit each different area. It really highlighted the importance of biosecurity, particularly with the density of the dairy cow population in the UK.

The exchange was an incredible experience. I had an amazing time, stayed with some great people, made good friends and learnt a lot. Definitely the experience of a lifetime. Thanks to Holstein UK, Holstein Australia, and everyone who worked to make my journey possible. 



Catherine Bunting from the UK will visit Australia in 2020 as recipient of the Holstein Young Breeders (HYB) Australian Exchange. She is pictured with Australian, Oakley Henry during his exchange to the UK.

Heading Down Under from the UK

In January 2020 Holstein Australia will welcome Catherine Bunting, from the UK, the fourth recipient of the Holstein Young Breeders (HYB) Australian Exchange.

Catherine, 20, is a member of the Derbyshire HYB Club. Her love for the dairy industry developed during her studies in Agriculture at Newton Rigg College in 2015. Since starting a job with the Sterndale and Peak herds, her enthusiasm has grown and she has enjoyed learning lots of new skills.

The month-long trip Down Under will see her gain first-hand experience of the Australian industry. Her visit will include the Western Districts Youth Camp, staying on HA-member farms in Victoria and South Australia, participating in the International Dairy Week (IDW) Youth Challenge and working with the Holstein Australia team at IDW. She'll also visit Genetics Australia with a member of Holstein Australia.

The trip is an all-expenses-paid adventure, funded by Holstein UK and Holstein Australia, and is a chance to gain knowledge and experience of other cultures. As part of the exchange, an Australian young breeder will visit the UK in September to coincide with some of the UK's leading dairy events, such as UK Dairy Day, the Dairy Show and the All Breeds All Britain Calf Show.

Catherine said, "I am looking forward to seeing the differences between UK and Australian dairy farming, although I am mostly looking forward to meeting new people and going to the Youth Camp where everyone has the same interests but in such a vast and differing industry."

A relative newcomer to HYB events, Catherine has competed at two weekend rallies and has enjoyed making new friends and learning skills such as linear judging. She has also become part of the Sterndale and Peak showing and prepping team so regularly helps with washing, clipping and halter breaking. Alongside developing these skills in Australia, Catherine is looking forward to learning about new cow families.

"My particular interest is to find families that have great type and stature, have longevity with a good milk production but not necessarily the highest yield. I am also looking forward to making friends and contacts within the Australian industry."

Hannah Williams, Head of Events & Marketing at Holstein UK, commented, "HYB wishes Catherine an amazing trip of a life time down under. The Australian Exchange is a fantastic opportunity to see first-hand how the southern hemisphere dairy farming industry operates and the experience will be hugely beneficial - not only from a social and personal development point of view, but, most importantly, to develop breeding, husbandry, showmanship and dairy management skills. Seeing first-hand how Australian dairy farmers run their businesses and breed productive cattle, with different climates and production methods, is the best way to develop Catherine's knowledge, skills and experience, which she can apply in practice on her return to the UK."

Source: Holstein-uk.org



LEFT: Team Australie! Ricky Nelson, Brady Hore, Sam Hill, Zoe Hayes and Julia Paulger.

Young breeders taking on the world's best

In early September an Australian team returned from a successful first foray to the European Young Breeders School. We caught up with team leader, Justin Johnston, team members Julia Paulger and Zoe Hayes and Holstein Australia CEO Graeme Gillan to find out the inspiration behind the trip and what it was like to compete on the world stage.

Justin Johnston says it was an idea years in the making. "I'd always wanted to get a team together to compete at the European Young Breeders School. I see it as the international reference point for training and show preparation, and I thought our young dairy men and women could acquit themselves well, plus it would provide a great learning opportunity."

Run by the Association Wallonne de l'Elevage in Battice, Belgium, the five-day European Young Breeders School involves hands-on workshops including bedding, showmanship and clipping, culminating in a weekend event of stock judging, showmanship and calf classes.

"To come away with the result we did, with all team members placing in the top third of the 163 strong field from 15 countries, and three in the top 15, was incredible but really only half the story," says Justin. "The way the team embraced every opportunity, what they learnt from the experience, and the contacts and friends they've made will I think play an important part in their future careers."

"The other real highlight for me is how the industry really got behind us. I took the

idea to Holstein Australia, Jersey Australia and Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria first, and all three saw the opportunity. With their backing, and a lot of phone calls and late night work at the computer, 13 more organisations came on board. It was then down to us to make it all happen and do the best job we could."

Getting to Belgium

On a cold August night Zoe Hayes, Julia Paulger, Brady Hore and Ricky Nelson flew out of Melbourne not quite sure what to expect when they arrived in Belgium. Fifth

team member, Sam Hall from Western Australia, met up with them in Dubai.

Zoe Hayes from Girgarre, Victoria, explains: "For most of us it was our first big trip overseas, first time in Europe. Although we've all come up through our breed society youth programs, this just really felt like taking things to the next level. Add in the pressure of being the first Australian team, representing your country, and there were a lot of nerves. I think we all put a lot of pressure on ourselves."

Zoe and her team mates were selected from a field of 25 applicants, says Holstein Australia CEO, Graeme Gillan.

"The interview panel selected a really strong cross-breed team from a number of different dairy regions throughout Australia. The calibre of applicants was high, which reflects well on our own youth training programs. In the future I see the European Young Breeders School sitting at the top of every dairy breed society's youth program, providing a unique international learning experience for Australian dairy youth."

Team reception

After almost 30 hours in the air the team arrived in Belgium. Adadale Jerseys & Holsteins Julia Paulger takes up the story.

"It was our first time, and we were conscious that other teams would have an advantage in that they had been here before, knew what needed to be done, so it took us a while to settle in. But the nerves quickly settled and we were made to feel incredibly welcome, other teams



Inside the EYBS arena.



Our team being hosted by one of the many dairy farmers during their whirl wind tour of Europe.

helped us out with equipment, and our common interest really helped break through any barriers," says Julia.

Zoe Hayes agrees: "I was surprised. As the whole event is team based I thought it would be really competitive from the outset, but from day one everyone was really friendly, willing to help out and share their knowledge and experience."

After three days of training, the Australian result speaks for itself, Justin says. "It was great to see our guys come together and really support each other. They worked hard for the team result, and the support and commitment they gave each other contributed to the individual results. They also made the most of every opportunity provided by the trip."

Enduring friendships

There were many highlights for the team members, not the least of which were the networking benefits and educational tour arranged by Justin Johnston.

"Interacting with the other teams was a real high point for me," Julia says. "A great example is after the judging session we had, the opportunity to talk about the reasoning behind some of the decisions with other competitors, which was invaluable. We really learnt a lot."

"The whole experience really demonstrated to me the global and interconnected nature of our industry, and the common interest that drives it forward. Not only have I been able to broaden my

knowledge base, but I've made some really good friends in Canada, Switzerland and the Netherlands, and even been offered the opportunity to go across to Swiss Expo 2020 and the World Dairy Expo."

Zoe is already thinking about her next international trip, plus the possibility of hosting some of the Canadian team members at International Dairy Week in January.

"I think we all made what will be enduring friendships and contacts. We're in touch most days," says Zoe. "The other great thing were the farm visits we made, particularly to K.I SAMEN, the Netherlands largest private AI station. They use a combination of very traditional methods in combination with genomics and more modern techniques in their bull selection. While their focus is very much towards commercial users, there were many aspects of what they do that I think would be of benefit to stud breeders out here."

This aspect of the trip is something Graeme Gillan is particularly pleased about.

"A major reason Holstein Australia supported this initiative was to broaden the experience of some of our talented young dairy men and women, and afford them the opportunity to not only learn, but make these kind of friendships and contacts," says Graeme. "In future years, I think there is a real opportunity to expand on this, incorporating elements such as leadership training. This process

has started already, with this year's team members taking on leadership roles at IDW, and we can build from there."

The future

This wasn't a one off. Planning has already commenced for an Australian team to compete at the European Young Breeders School next year. Watch this space! Applications will be opening before Christmas.

Perhaps the final word should go to Julia Paulger, on behalf of the entire team.

"Standing alongside four friends as part of the first Australian team was an unbelievable experience and one I won't forget. Thank you to everyone for your support and encouraging words. We hope we have done you all proud and that this incredible event gains momentum to further develop and broaden the horizons for Australian youth. The memories and friendships we have made and the experience we have gained will last us a lifetime, and for that we are all extremely grateful."

The team was supported by supported by Holstein Australia, the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria, Jersey Australia, Genetics Australia, Dairy Australia, GippsDairy, Gippsland Dairy Youth, Gardiner Dairy Foundation, Fonterra, STgenetics Australia, Ridley AgriProducts, WFI Insurance, Dick Smith, Smyth Seeds, B. Braun Australia and New Zealand and the Australian Football League. **HJ**

Miranda's Irish wedding

Congratulations to Miranda Clark, Genomics Service Officer, who married her Irish beau Shane Daly in September. They travelled to Shane's homeland for a fairy-tale wedding at Kilonan Castle in County Roscommon.

The Irish rain held off for the outdoor ceremony in the castle grounds overlooking the lake. About 200 guests attended the reception which was held in the castle ball room. Among them were Miranda's workmates, Colleen Muir and Laura Calder, who used the wedding as an excuse for an overseas holiday.

We wish Miranda and Shane a long and happy life together. **HJ**



Miranda Clark (centre) with workmates, Laura Calder and Colleen Muir, at her Irish wedding.



Shane and Miranda.



HA Genomic Services Officer, Miranda Clark, and Shane Daly (left) married at Kilonan Castle (above) in County Roscommon, Ireland, in September.

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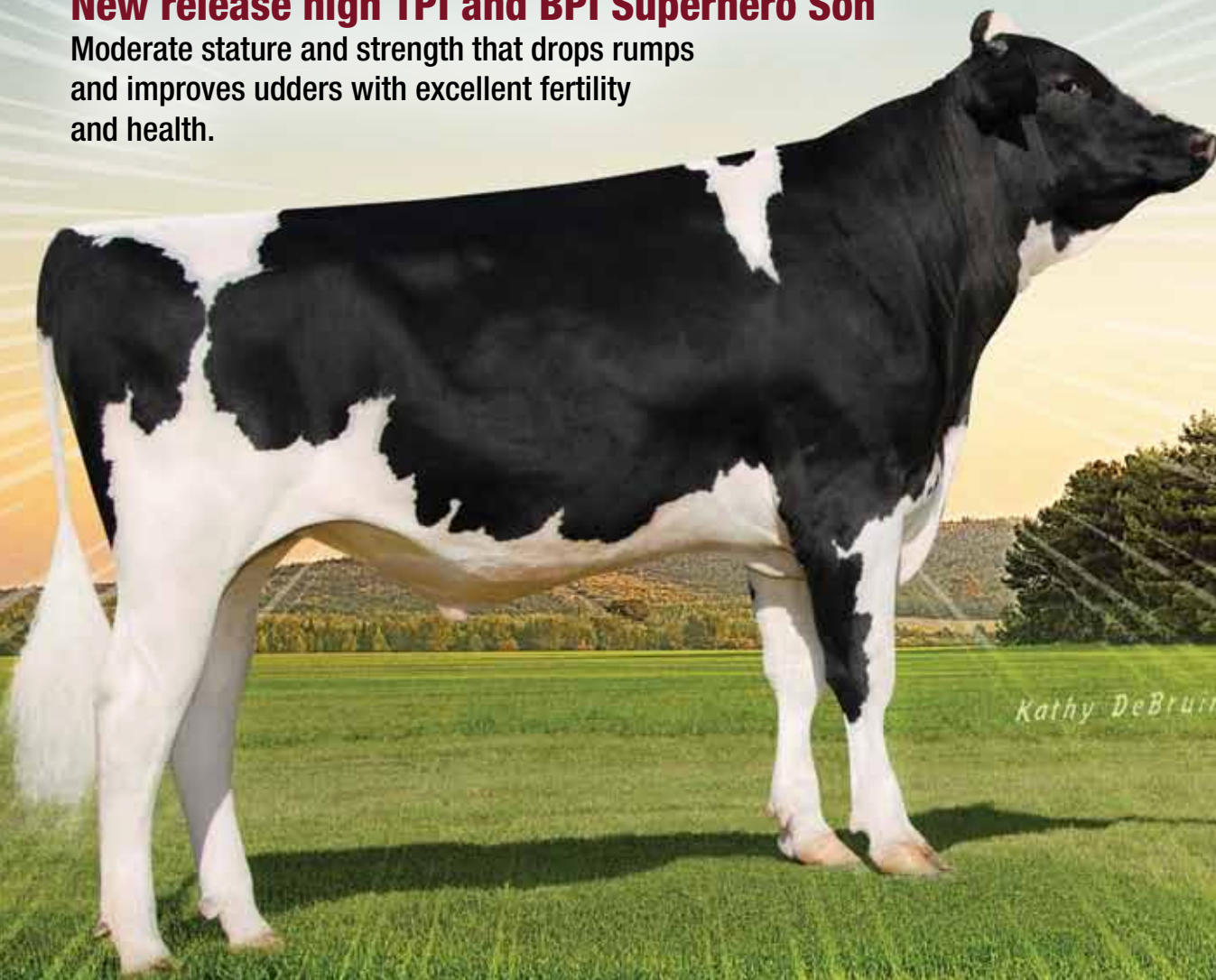
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