

# Grade Holsteins granted recognition

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — Delegates to the annual convention of Holstein - Friesian Association of America recently approved a new program for identification of Holstein females not eligible for registry.

Action on the program, which has been called the most far-reaching economic stimulus within the industry in recent years, occurred at the 91st Annual Convention of the Holstein Association in Philadelphia, June 29 - July 2. The new program is effective immediately.

Charles J. Larson, executive secretary of the Holstein Association, said the identification program will potentially benefit all Holstein dairymen who breed to registered Holstein bulls.

Dairy marketing specialists have stated that grade Holstein females, properly identified by sire, are worth much more than unidentified animals. When sold for dairy production purposes, identified cattle bring more income; when kept on the farm, they add to a dairyman's net worth.

Larson said one of the basic factors which determines milk production capability and dollar value of a Holstein is her genetic background. By identifying the registered Holstein sire of a grade female, a large portion of that genetic background is established. That information, alone, has dollar value for dairy cattle buyers in this country and abroad. In addition, the contribution of additional

sire identified cows on DHI test will significantly improve national genetic evaluations of dairy cattle.

Holstein dairymen can participate in the grade identification program immediately by obtaining an application form from the Holstein Association or by submitting an artificial breeding receipt, properly completed, which shows an identifying sketch of both sides of the animal. When the application form or breeding receipt is accepted by the Holstein Association, an Identification Report will be mailed to the owner of the animal. A \$3.00 fee is charged for the processing and recording of applications, and also for subsequent recorded changes in ownership.

The basic elements of the grade identification program, as approved at the Holstein Convention, are as follows:

1. The program is limited to characteristically Holstein females not otherwise eligible for registry in the herd book of the Holstein - Friesian Association of America.

2. Animals offered for identification must be sired by a bull registered in the herd book of the Holstein - Friesian Association of America.

3. Animals offered for identification must be under 12 months of age (except for a period of one year, July 1, 1976 to July 1, 1977, during which no age limit will prevail).

4. Animals offered for identification must be distinctly black and white or red and white.

5. Application for grade Holstein identification will be made by the owner on an HFAA form or by submitting a fully completed A.I. breeding receipt. A fee of \$3.00 must accompany each application.

6. An HFAA grade Holstein identification report will be issued for each animal. It will include the official HFAA identification number (DHIA or unique animal health eartag number); date of birth; name, which shall be limited to one word; barn or herd number; name and address of owner; registered name and number of sire; identifying sketch or photo of both sides of the animal, and dam's name and identification number, if provided by the owner.

7. Transfer procedures will require the reissue of the identification report with the name and address of the new owner. The new report will cost the same as the original report... \$3.00.

8. Owner compliance will be under all provisions of the

HFAA bylaws with additional requirements established by the HFAA board of directors.

9. The reserved prefix of a breeder will be limited in its use to the naming of registered animals.

## Simmentals not dual purpose here

BELTSVILLE, Md. - Simmental cattle, which are used for both beef and milk in their native Switzerland, are best used only for beef in this country, says Loren A. Fulton, a dairy husbandman with the USDA's Agricultural Research Service here. Fulton conducted research to compare the milk production potential of Simmental-Holstein crossbred and purebred Holstein cows.

Twenty-six crossbred Simmental-Holstein females were compared with 49 purebred Holstein herdmates. At birth, and at 12 months of age, the Simmental crossbreds were heavier than the purebred Holsteins, but the Holsteins were bigger in heart girth and taller than the Simmental crosses at six, 12, and 18 months. However, all differences were very small. Simmental crosses showed first estrus three weeks later than the purebred Holsteins,

but required fewer services to be bred. Simmental crosses were artificially inseminated with imported Brown Swiss semen; purebred Holsteins were inseminated with purebred Holstein semen.

Both groups of cows calved at an average of 24 months. Simmental crosses had more calving difficulty and more retained placentas. The Simmentals also produced about 5,000 pounds less milk and milked 30 less days than Holsteins. "The overall superiority of our Holsteins for milk production makes it impractical to use Simmentals for anything other than beef production in this country," says Fulton.

Fulton presented his research before a combined meeting of the Northeastern Section of the American Society of Animal Science, and the Northeast Division of the American Dairy Science Association here today.

## Sire Power Sale hits high

KUTZTOWN — Bidding was very brisk and prices competitive at the 1976 Sire Power Sale held here on July 27 at the Fairgrounds. A large crowd of approximately 2000 saw a display of cow power as 63 head averaged \$2293; the highest average since the sale began in 1970. Buyers from eight states took home daughters of Sire Power sires.

Topping the sale at \$11,000 was a VG(87) Round Oak Rag Apple Elevation daughter consigned by Maple Lawn Farms, Inc., Fulton, Md. Sugar Creek Farms, Danville, NY, represented by Gary Janssen, went the distance to

take this great young cow home.

In all, 11 animals sold for over \$3,000 in a sale dominated by Elevation and Kingpin progeny. Thirty-one Elevation daughters averaged \$2684 while 13 Kingpin daughters averaged \$2066. Selling for \$4,000 was another two year old Elevation daughter consigned by Schenning Brothers of Bel Air, Md. A young heifer calf that caught the eye of many, including buyer, Glen Morrow, was a 4 month old Kingpin daughter from the same family as the \$74,000 All-American "Glamour" cow. After many bids, this Maple Lawn Farms consignment sold for \$3600.

As always, the Kutztown Fairgrounds provided an ideal setting for the sale. This year's sale seemed to have more young cattle than usual, especially bred heifers. The Kingpin bred heifers selling were certainly a select group for the buyers, since they could only be found exclusively at the Sire Power Sale.

The Sire Power Sale is sponsored by Sire Power and its member cooperatives, Northeastern Breeders Association, Maryland Artificial Breeding Cooperative, and West Virginia Artificial Breeders Cooperative. Stud and office facilities are located in Tunkhannock, Pa., and Frederick, Md.

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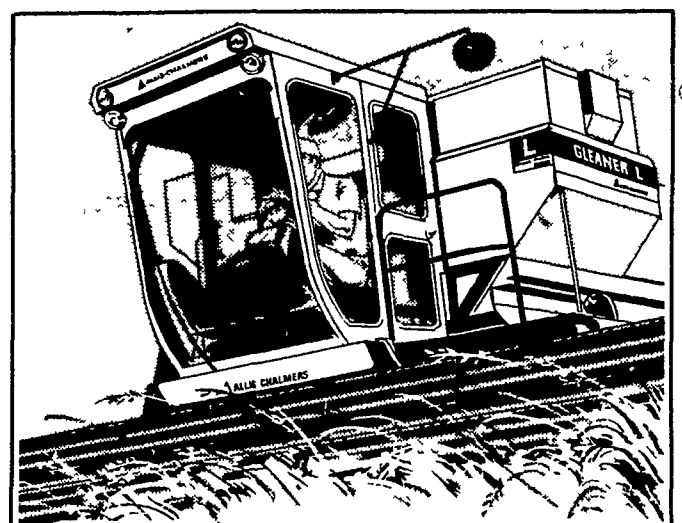
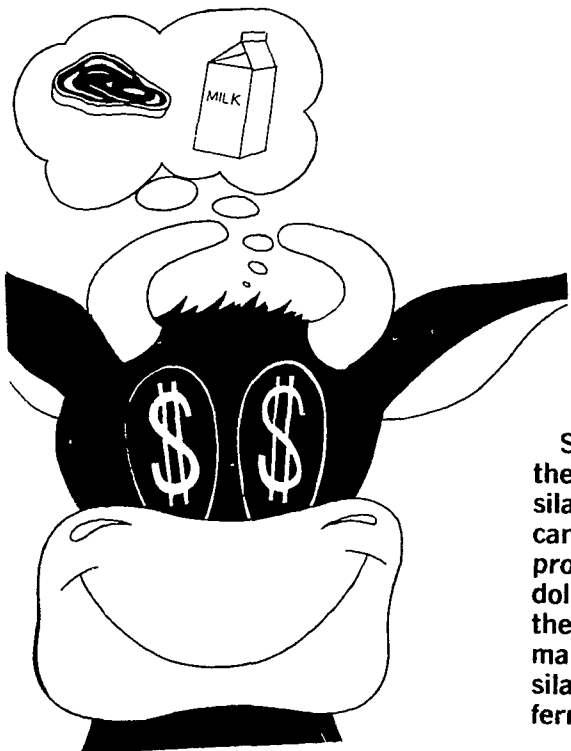
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