

Maryland Jersey Farm Realize Dream With Jug Win

BY GINGER SECRIST MYERS
Adams Co. Correspondent

KEYMAR, Md. — The National Jersey Jug Futurity, held annually in conjunction with the All-American Jersey Show at the NAILE in Louisville, Ky., is billed as the most glamorous and prestigious of all dairy breed events. For most Jersey breeders, winning "The Jug" is just a dream. For Ed and Carol Kahler and family, Gaywinds Farm, Keymar, MD, that dream came true at the 32nd National Jersey Jug Futurity held Nov. 9 at the Louisville Exposition Center.

Gaywinds Saint Crissy EX-92 topped a class of 52 of the country's best 3-year-old Jersey cows to win The Jug. For the Kahlers the win was especially sweet for several reasons.

"Crissy" represents the fourth generation of Gaywinds Jersey breeding.

She is the first cow from Maryland to ever win the show.

And, the Kahlers took home a first place purse of \$1,287, a silver replica of a Jersey Jug, a silverware set for the Mary Leas Memorial trophy, another set for having bred the winner of the class, and will have their names inscribed on the Vauclause Farm Trophy.

Not a bad return on the \$44 they had invested in her nomination fees.

Crissy is owned by the youngest Kahler son, Jack, a high school senior who plans to return to the family farm after graduation. Crissy is out of an Excellent Golden Faith daughter who has two Excellent full-sisters. Her granddam was an 88 point Generator daughter. Crissy can milk as well as show. At 2-06 she made 14,830 pounds of milk and 705 pounds of fat in 365 days.

Although Crissy had been showing well all season, daughter Pat Kahler Beachy, who manages the Kahlers 160 head combined Holstein and Jersey herd, stated that the win was a real surprise. Fresh just before the show in Harrisburg, Crissy went down the ketosis, but recovered well enough to place third in a strong 3-year-old class there.

Fully recovered and in full bloom, the Kahlers had many pre-show admirers that picked their cow as the winner. Still, they considered it all just shear speculation.

Carol remembers that the judging was nerve racking. Judge Larry Schirm and associate judge

David Dickson selected their top 12 cows and placed them randomly off to one side of the ring. They then placed the remainder of the class.

Returning to their original 12, they placed them 12th through 6th. The top five cows were then excused to be milked out. At this point Carol was hoping to be in the top three.

When those five cows returned, judging started from 5th to first. The entire Kahler crew broke into applause as fellow Maryland Jersey breeder Wayne Stiles, who was leading Crissy, turned her into the top spot.

The Kahlers routinely enter all their Jersey calves in their respective futurities each year. They feel this show is good promotion for their farm and for the Jersey breed. They also participate in a number of other AJCC programs including TPE.

Their Gaywinds prefix has traveled the tanbark circuit with both their Holsteins and Jerseys. All their children, Jim, Pat, Kathy and Jack, have shown cows and remain active in dairying.

The Kahlers have sent 15 Holsteins bulls into AI service and presently have one cow under contract. Their Holsteins have a RHA of 17,500 pounds of milk and 673 pounds of fat. Their Jerseys average 11,168 pounds of milk and 602 pounds of fat.

The herd is fed a total mixed ration plus hay. The Holsteins and Jerseys are housed and managed together, but are tested separately. Ed Kahler finds that the two breeds manage well together, but that his Jerseys will get fat pushing right up to the feed bunk with their Holstein stablemates and then eating their fill.

Kahler doesn't see any one breed as the answer to dairying's profitability. He states, "Dairying is more of a business today than ever before. What you do with your cows is more important than the breed of cows you have. We don't have a split herd just for the butterfat production. You need to look at what's making you money. Our Jerseys are good feed converters."

Added Carol, "I had Jerseys when we got married. We like them and we have always liked associating with Jersey people. We enjoy Registered cattle and showing. Without that, dairying would get kind of . . . well, boring."

Even as they were lining up for Danny Weaver's show winner



Gaywinds Saint Crissy was the winner of the 1986 Jersey Jug Futurity. Shown here are left; Molly Stevens, Susie Heath, David Dickson, Larry Schirm, "Crissy," Wayne Stiles, Pat Kahler Beachy, Carol Kahler, Jack Kahler and Cherie Wamsley.

picture following the class, they started to receive offers from prospective buyers for Crissy.

They continue to consider some offers, including one to export her to Brazil. If the price is right, the Kahlers may part with Crissy or

another member of this high quality family, but they'd really rather not. What they would like to do is to milk her another lactation and then start to flush her. She is currently safe in calf to Squire.

As for their plans in the im-

mediate future, you can bet that the Kahlers have been busy filling out their nominations for the 1989 Futurity. The nominations were due into the American Jersey Cattle Club not later than December 31st.



The 1987 officers of the Cumberland Valley Jersey Breeders and the State Directors from District II were recently elected at the group's annual holiday meeting. In front of the piano, seated, Julie Martin, secretary, standing, Florence Robinson, treasurer. Behind the piano, left: Lester Martin, vice-president, David Robinson, District II state director, and William Dietrich, president and District II state director.

Cumberland Valley Jersey Breeders Elect Officers

BY GINGER SECRIST MYERS
Adams County Correspondent

CHAMBERSBURG — The Cumberland Valley Jersey Breeders held their annual holiday meeting recently at the Lighthouse Restaurant, east of Chambersburg. Over 55 Jersey breeders and agri-business representatives gathered for the evening program which included a family-style meal, business meeting, and a Christmas carol sing.

Highlights of the business meeting included the election of officers and state directors for the coming year. Those elected were: William Dietrich, president; Lester Martin, vice president; Julie Martin, secretary, and Florence Robinson, treasurer. William Dietrich and David Robinson were both re-elected to the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Club Board as Directors from District II

The group unanimously voted to again sponsor the CVJB July 4 Jersey Sale. This year's sale will again be held at the Shippensburg Fairgrounds. The main objective of the sale is to provide buyers with a source of quality Jerseys and to help meet the demand for Jersey breeding stock in this area. The sale committee will include: Bill and Susan Dietrich, Lester and Ruth Martin, Ted and Carolyn Small, Dave and Florence Robinson, and John and Ginger Myers.

State Director Bill Dietrich reported that the state production awards criteria have been revised for 1986. Only 100 percent Jersey herds will be considered for the high herd awards in each herd size category; three times a day milking herds will have their herd averages adjusted to two times a day milking levels for comparison. Individual cow records will be

compared on a CY\$ basis for competition in the individual high cow awards.

State Field Representative Florence Robinson encouraged members to get their 1987 membership payments in to her as soon as possible. Membership dues to the PJCC are \$10 per family plus 10 cents per milking animal. The 10 cents per milking animal is contributed to the youth fund. Membership dues should be sent to Florence Robinson, 9269 Mentzer Gap Rd., Waynesboro, PA 17268.

Robinson also announced that the 1987 PJCC State Meeting will be held in the Lancaster area on March 27 to 28, 1987.

The State Bred Heifer Sale will be held April 11, 1987 at the Mercer 4-H Park. Anyone interested in consigning to this sale should contact Florence Robinson or Bred Heifer Sale Chairman, John McConnell.



Carol Kahler with her homebred winner of the 1986 Jersey Jug Futurity, Gaywinds Saint Crissy, EX-92, who is housed with the other cows.