

## Jersey Cattle Popularity Increasing

REYNOLDSBURG, OH — Although dairy cow numbers are shrinking in the United States, the popularity and production of Jerseys continue to increase, according to officials with the American Jersey Cattle Club.

During 1989, Jerseys enrolled in Dairy Herd Improvement Registry (DHIR) averaged 13,956 pounds milk, 656 pounds butter-

fat, and 517 pounds total protein. The mature equivalent (M.E.) averages are based on 48,451 lactations.

All of the figures represent increases from 1988 levels. Rates of increase for milk, fat and protein are 2.8%, 3.0%, and 2.4%, respectively. 1989 was the fifteenth consecutive year that the average Jersey production increased.

The production increases are coming at a time of increases in the number of Jerseys as well. At the end of 1988, 145,858 Jerseys were enrolled in all Dairy Herd Improvement (DHI) testing programs. This is an increase of nearly seven percent over 1985 participation. Jerseys were the only breed among the five major dairy breeds to show an increase in DHI participation during this time.

Semen sales confirm that Jersey popularity is on the rise, both in the United States, and around the world. Domestically, sales of Jersey semen have increased 10% from 1985 to 1988. Jerseys also led the way in growth of exported semen, showing an increase of 169%, according to figures from the National Association of Animal Breeders.

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PICTURED: LYNN AND GARY SEDELBAUER, HIXTON, WI WITH THEIR 105 COW MOBITRON FEED SYSTEM.

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PICTURED: CURT SCHULTZ OF AUGUSTA, WI WITH HIS 71 COW MOBITRON FEED SYSTEM.



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