

USDA Top Dairy Bull Evaluations, Ranked By Net Merit

As a new service to our dairy readers, *Lancaster Farming* has scheduled the publication of regular USDA sire evaluation reports for the seven major dairy breeds.

The reports are released quarterly by the USDA's Animal Improvement Programs Laboratory during the months of February, May, August, and November.

This week, we begin with the top Holstein sires avail-

able in the U.S. The list was released by the USDA on May 15.

May sire lists for the Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Jersey, Milking Shorthorn, and Red and White breeds are scheduled for next week's edition of *Lancaster Farming*.

The sires are ranked by net merit (NM\$). PTA stands for the average predicted transmitting ability for each of

the categories listed, including milk yield, fat yield, fat percentage, protein yield, protein percentage, somatic cell score (SCS), and productive life (PL).

DPR stands for daughter pregnancy rate, a recent addition to the bull proofs.

Also included are the number of herds and daughters evaluated in each sire's proof.

USDA Evaluations for Available Holstein Sires Sorted by Net Merit May, 2003

ID	NAAB	Name	NM\$	REL NMS	PTA Milk lbs	PTA Fat lbs	PTA Fat %	PTA Protein lbs	PTA Protein %	REL Yield	PTA SCS	PTA DPR	PTA PL	Herds	Daus
HOUSA000122358313	007HO06417	O-BEE MANFRED JUSTICE ET	759	85	1767	98	0.14	76	0.09	90	2.89	0.4	3.1	84	156
HOGBR000000587438	029HO12044	MOET LOOKOUT ET	711	74	2120	73	-0.01	74	0.04	79	2.87	-0.5	2.1	80	109
HOUSA000122185573	029HO09685	VISION-GEN OZZIE-ET	692	85	2864	104	0.00	76	-0.03	88	2.82	-0.7	0.6	63	96
HODEU000000254210	011HO05611	LANCELOT	687	70	1587	98	0.16	72	0.10	76	3.09	0.5	2.2	104	117
HOUSA000124003312	001HO05583	EMERALD-ACR-SA T-DAWSON-ET	675	81	2310	67	-0.07	85	0.06	86	3.00	-1.1	0.9	84	106
HOGBR000000586950	224HO06874	COGENT COURIER-ET	667	72	2865	67	-0.14	97	0.05	76	3.31	-0.7	0.2	51	82
HOUSA000124690866	011HO05929	CARTERS-CORNER ALLY-ET	641	79	1809	99	0.13	60	0.03	84	3.16	0.8	2.7	64	84
HOUSA000125841340	029HO09958	RICECREST SHAMROCK-ET	638	81	2645	87	-0.03	82	0.01	86	3.18	-0.5	0.3	62	105
HOUSA00017007935	007HO05710	PAGEN-ERNWOOD DANE-ET	630	90	1853	86	0.07	58	0.01	92	2.86	-1.3	1.5	140	238
HOITA000912027632	224HO06974	AQUILA PATRON LUCENTE-ET	630	73	2160	93	0.06	61	-0.01	78	3.13	-0.2	1.3	63	93
HOUSA000002297473	011HO04662	RICECREST MARSHALL-ET	625	91	2299	64	-0.08	77	0.03	93	2.94	-1.7	-0.1	124	178
HOUSA000125997863	001HO05588	RICH-J SOSA-ET	624	73	2980	76	-0.12	67	-0.08	77	3.16	1.1	2.6	37	45
HOITA006001001962	206HO00004	CAROL PRELUDE MTOTO-ET	607	96	1744	73	0.04	47	-0.02	98	2.52	-1.5	2.0	5652	17637
HOUSA000123982137	014HO03367	SANDY-VALLEY TREDWAY-ET	607	71	1804	101	0.14	70	0.06	75	3.07	0.3	0.1	30	43

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SARS Epidemic Not Impacting Soybean Exports

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — Not even the SARS epidemic has been able to prevent U.S. soybean exports to China and Southeast Asia from reaching near-record levels, thanks, in part, to focused soybean checkoff marketing efforts.

In fact, China, one of the countries most severely hit by the disease, has already imported record

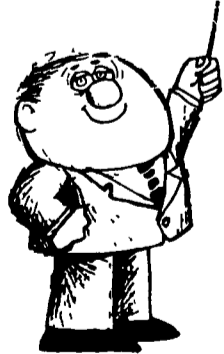
levels of nearly 278 million bushels of U.S. soybeans through the first half of the current marketing year. Nearly three out of every 10 bushels of U.S. soybeans being exported this year are going to China. Total soybean exports to China for the 2001-2002 marketing year amounted to 168 million bushels.

U.S. soybean exports are typically highest between October and March and usually slow down from April through September. However this year U.S. exports to China during the month of April were over 10 million bushels. Most of these exports were shipped from Pacific Northwest ports, demonstrating the importance to Chinese cus-

tomers of the shorter delivery times available from these ports. According to a checkoff-funded transportation study, shipping U.S. soybeans from the West Coast to Asia saves 10-18 days compared with shipments from the Gulf of Mexico.

The Southeast Asia market, which includes Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore, the Phil-

ippines, and Indonesia, is the largest soybean meal market for U.S. farmers. Soybean checkoff marketing programs in this region target core buyers in the rapidly growing poultry, swine, and aquaculture sectors by differentiating U.S. dehulled soybean meal as the product of choice over competitive sources of supply.



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