

Info Holstein

A Holstein Canada publication providing informative, challenging, and topical news.

Cornridges Strategy Stabilized

Van Stuyvenberg brothers recognize value of industry services

Having engaged in an ambitious herd expansion in 1999, Gerry and Andy Van Stuyvenberg, Ayr, ON became overwhelmed with paperwork, particularly bloodtyping requests (sire determination), to maintain a registered herd. They let their

purebred status slip!

The entire family had immigrated from Holland in 1987 and initially built a beautiful tie-stall operation for 60 purchased purebreds. The prefix *Cornridges* comes from their parents' names, *Cornelia* and *Cornelis*. A view of *ridges* around the farm completes the herd identifier.

Gerry and Andy originally farmed with father CJ and brother Casey. In 1996, Casey moved to Teeswater to start his own dairy.

Even after enlarging their tie-stall setup to stable 150 cows, the brothers decided to expand further. A basic free-stall barn was erected across the road on 500 newly-purchased acres to house 460 cows. Heifers and calves are now cared for in the original facilities.

Again, these entrepreneurs purchased purebreds to fill their increasing quota. Having grown up with registered Holsteins in Holland, they wanted to breed good quality animals with pedigrees that could be merchandized. And, as Gerry states, "Every farmer has a hope that he might someday breed that *big-time* show cow."

And while regretful, the paperwork associated with 350 new purchases proved to be a nightmare! Because breeding data on many of the acquisitions was incomplete, bloodtyping was required by the Association. Gerry

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Holstein staff person Paula McMahon verifies information from herd records with Gerry Van Stuyvenberg.



explains, "Not only did we have to conduct the tests, we had to pay big fees at a time when we were really busy in a new barn with a higher turnover of cows."

After becoming more organized in dairy routines, the Van Stuyvenbergs purchased DairyComp in 2003. With the herd now *stabilized*, Gerry entered all animal data into the system over a period of time. Today, it takes only minutes to make daily updates. They also like the fact that DairyComp is user-friendly and data can't be altered once entered.

At this point, they asked themselves: do we really need to officially register all animals when all herd data is at our fingertips?

Gerry continues, "Then Greg Dietrich of Holstein Canada came knocking with the Herd Enrolment program. The Association offered to bring all of our records up to date. As well, Ontario Branch's Jason French

would help us sort papers."

Because good herd records had been maintained, it was relatively simple for the *Cornridges* herd to regain registered status. While some pedigree snags took extra investigation, all have been resolved. As Gerry discovered, added herd value didn't cost much money and he anticipates easy payback.

Calling themselves purebred commercial people, the brothers buy sexed semen from ABS. They figure they will have about 40 purebred heifers annually to merchandize, now that markets have reopened. As well, age verification provided through registration is necessary to move animals off-farm.

While a big herd with 34 litres/cow in tank [and rising], Gerry still likes to receive the Certificates of Registry, which he files numerically in binders. When he sells an animal, he gives the dealer the certificate

to move with the animal. At some point, he may decide to receive Certificates of Registry in electronic format.

To keep registrations current at base fees, they will have DHI staff electronically register all calves during their scheduled visits. They plan to classify again and, for the time being, would like to have certificates stamped. Furthermore, they vow never to let their registrations slide again.

As well, Gerry has renewed hope of breeding that *big-time* show animal!

Holstein Canada and branch staff would be pleased to work with any dairyman wanting to upgrade animals to registered status. As always, the key is good record-keeping and animal identification at the farm.



Gerry Van Stuyvenberg of Cornridges

G'day Australia and New Zealand

If you're 18-25 years of age and want to meet some new Aussie mates in 2009, apply now for an awesome exchange opportunity.

Offered by Holstein Canada and the Semex Alliance, you'll enjoy three months *down under* participating in a wide variety of events and activities.

Last year's winner Pierre-Luc Perreault, St-Alexis de Montcalm, Qc reported from Australia, "Things are really super!

"The approach to cow management and milk production is very different. Upon arrival, I was introduced to people who



Pierre-Luc Perreault at Lancey Farm, Nyora, Victoria (prefix Mt Lyall), where 800 to 900 cows are milked.

milk 800 to 900 cows in a 70-stall rotary dairy. When I think of my small herd back home with 45 in production, it's really mind-boggling.

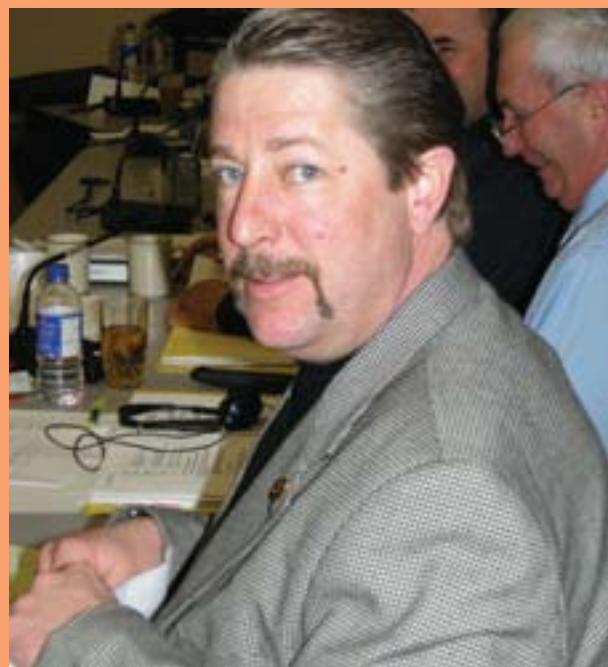
"I prepared cattle for the Semex Spectacular Sale during International Dairy Week. Because I've never really worked a sale before, it was extraordinary.

"Before I left home, people told me that winning the exchange would be the experience of a lifetime. So far, they're not mistaken!"

To apply by July 2008, print off an application form at www.holstein.ca/english/Youth/austexch.asp or contact the Marketing Department at Holstein Canada 519-756-8300.

News Flash ... we're also offering an opportunity for a young person to visit Europe in 2009!

Further information and an application form will be posted online at www.holstein.ca. You can also contact Holstein Canada's Marketing Department before July.



Moving Ahead ... with Eyes Wide Open

by Holstein Canada President John Iversen, Olds, AB

Changes in the dairy industry in recent decades have been well documented.

While Holstein Canada is cautious when making predictions of what the future will offer, it is widely recognized that some aspects will be different than they are today.

It is safe to state that the number of producers will decrease and the number of cows per herd will increase.

To meet customer needs in future, the Board and Secretary-Manager are currently looking at a longer-term strategy.

Customers will demand value in the services they purchase and will increasingly expect greater return for their investment in Association programs and services.

Breed Associations are not one-dimensional; they are also responsible for the stewardship of the breed. The best interests for the breed and the membership at large must outweigh individual member or producer desires.

Various and sometimes continuing issues that your Association needs to address must be examined fully. There are times when we have been questioned for moving too slowly. But, understandably, we must be cautious and make decisions that work into the future.

Together, our Association will grow in strength and adapt to changing needs to serve its members and the Holstein breed.

Looking to Future

National and branch reps examine Association structure to meet future challenges

A joint meeting of national and branch representatives was held in January. This annual meeting provides a forum for national to inform branches about policy and direction. As well, dialogue and information are exchanged to clarify positions and roles.

Much of the day's discussions revolved around the projected Canadian dairy landscape in 10 years. Conservative predictions estimate there will be just over 8,500 Holstein producers registering cattle by 2015. Overall, the number of animals will remain the same, with increases in production, maintaining supply to meet increased demand.

There will be fewer producers in business and, therefore, increased costs for the same services. Certain regions with a critical mass of producers could afford to pay for *bells and whistles*; other regions could not.

Policies and programs will be standardized across the country. However, the manner in which they are delivered may vary depending on the regional situation.

Differences were acknowledged between large and small branches. However, it was felt that at some point, larger branches would feel similar pressures.

Western branches can no longer afford to provide field services on their own. National now offers these services through a contracted Business Development Representative; branches are pleased with the results. Last year, the focus was placed on retention; this year, it is being placed on recruitment.

A three-tiered structure (national, branch, and clubs) may not be required in all areas of the country.

The combination of events and meetings into regional activities, an amalgamation of clubs, and reductions in director representation would change the landscape. Hopefully, activities would become more interesting and time efficient for producers, directors, and administration, while reducing volunteer burnout. Because it is becoming increasingly difficult for smaller branches to meet quorums [reduced membership numbers], amalgamation of some branches may provide the solution.

The flow of information among industry partners would continue to evolve. Roles would be re-defined,

Saskatchewan's President Art Pruim urged Holstein Canada to become more inclusive than exclusive.

duplication eliminated, and use of data in the system maximized. Holstein Canada's database could evolve into a *Dairy Centre* for all breeds.

Amalgamation triggers a change from independence to interdependence, as the emphasis on priorities and objectives changes. There is, however, a political benefit in the ability to speak with one voice and issue collaborative messages. Art Pruim, President, Saskatchewan Branch stressed, "Holstein Canada must speak to more than the converted and involve more people. It is crucial—provincially and nationally—for the Association to be inclusive, and not exclusive."

Political power at the national and branch levels would be reduced as producer and membership numbers decline. Animal health discussions across Canada provide an example of an issue expanding beyond the Holstein breed. The consumer sees no difference among commodities regarding food safety. Direct agricultural producers represent only 3% of the population.

Any species that could affect the national animal health status must be on-side. While a national body should lead these discussions, commodities could work together and take positions at the provincial or branch levels. Pressure could then be applied to provincial governments to help move the issue forward.

It remains important to focus on commonalities and not differences in preparing for a viable future!

Did you know ...

by using CFIA approved tags and investing \$5 in registration, you could receive \$50 to \$150 more for an animal being exported for slaughter ... if you age verify.

(l-r) Holstein Québec attendees Marcel Martin, Jean-Albert Fleury, and James Peel





Seven Breeder's Herds competed at the 2007 Royal with Cobequid Holsteins, Truro, NS winning first and All-Canadian.
photo Vicky Fletcher

Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

Schedule changes for 2008

Already making Royal plans?

Make sure you have the latest information as the 2008 Holstein show schedule is changing—out of necessity.

The bottom line: we just haven't had the extra time needed to adequately recognize and showcase our magnificent Black and White Holstein Champions to the world.

As well, 2007 exhibitors had insufficient time to prepare their entries

for show.

While somewhat unconventional, the Black and White Junior and Intermediate Calves will show at approximately 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 13 in the Ring of Excellence. This follows the Red and White National Show commencing at 9:00 a.m.

The younger calves will receive additional spectator exposure if exhibited on Thursday, rather than very early Friday morning! They will slot

nicely between the Red and Whites and Sale of Stars.

Black and White Senior Calves will lead the National Holstein Show in the Ricoh Coliseum at 7:30 a.m. Friday, November 14. First and second Junior and Intermediate Calves will join the parade for Junior Champion.

The remainder of the Black and White show will run continuously all day Friday, concluding about 5:00 p.m.

It's been a tough—and often frustrating—few months for your Royal Agricultural Dairy representatives Ari Ekstein, John Crowley, Pete Coleman, and Scott Brethet.

Spending considerable time, they've grappled with tough issues pertinent to Holstein exhibitors and spectators. These include the satisfactory scheduling of the black/white and red/white Holstein shows, truck unloading concerns, barn conditions, and exhibitor displays.

Thanks guys!



2008 Holstein Royal Schedule

Thurs., Nov. 13	9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Red & White Holsteins
	2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	Black & White Junior and Intermediate Calves
	5:30 p.m.	Holstein Sale of Stars
Fri., Nov. 14	7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Black & White Show (starting with Senior Calves)
	6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Holstein Canada President's Cup Showmanship
	7:30 p.m.	Exhibitors' Reception
Sat., Nov. 15	2:00 p.m.	Supreme Champion (follows Jersey Show)

Using Health Records on

by Blair Murray, Dairy Genetic Improvement Specialist, OMAFRA, Kemptville, ON



Dr. Wayne Shewfelt speaks on the importance of recording disease information.

“I encourage you to record disease information now. The positive benefits can be immediate on your farm.”

This was the message delivered in February by Dr. Wayne Shewfelt (Tavistock Veterinarians) to 500 dairy producers and industry representatives at the South Western Ontario Dairy Symposium in Woodstock.

Dr. Henry Ceelen, Grenville-Dundas Veterinary Clinic, also addressed over 300 at the Eastern Ontario Dairy Days about the economic benefits of disease recording.

The Canadian dairy industry has begun a program of recording animal health data under the Canadian National Health Project. The CNHP has two main objectives: create a national database to assist with herd management programs and develop a national genetic evaluation system to allow for genetic selection to reduce disease incidence rates.

Disease recording and health

trait selection have been carried out in Scandinavian countries since the 1970's; however, very little disease recording has been accomplished elsewhere in the world.

The CNHP initiative is unique in the world in that it is an industry-driven, voluntary, disease-recording program.

Benefits to Producers and the Dairy Industry

- increased production and milk components
- increased reproductive performance
- less discarded milk from treated cows
- lower culling and replacement rates
- decreased labour and treatment costs

The industry will also develop genetic evaluations to allow for selection of sires that produce daughters with higher rates of disease resistance. As well, consumer confidence in nutritious value and safety of dairy products produced from healthy cows will be enhanced.

The project concentrates on eight diseases: mastitis, lameness, cystic ovarian disease, displaced abomasum, ketosis, metritis, milk fever, and retained placenta.

In Kemptville, Dr. Ceelen said these

diseases are an obvious choice as they are known to have significant impact on herd profitability in treatment costs, loss of production, poor reproduction, and culling.

They can be consistently diagnosed without further testing or laboratory confirmation. The producer can diagnose diseases accurately according to clear definitions developed to standardize recording. Without clear, simple definitions to follow, the situation of garbage in / garbage out prevails.

Dr. Rob Bell of Pfizer Animal Health, speaking at the same series of meetings, pointed out the costs of post-calving disorders. If producers don't record and manage the incidence of these important health disorders, they leave a lot of money on the table.

Dr. Shewfelt agrees that economics should be the driver for disease recording and monitoring systems. An example of costs would be retained placenta. A 15% incidence rate in a 100-cow herd would result in 15 cases at \$285 per case equalling \$4,275 loss per year.

Many of these transition cow diseases contribute to cows being

Table 1

Lactation Incidence Rates (IR) by Disease Based on Extensive Scientific Literature Review (Kelton, 1998)			
	IR	Goal	Disease Cost
Mastitis	14.2%	8%	\$360.00
Lameness	7.0%	3%	\$315.00
Cystic Ovarian Disease	8.0%	3%	\$137.00
Displaced Abomasum	1.7%	3-5%	\$340.00
Ketosis	4.8%	3-5%	\$450.00
Metritis	10.1%	3-5%	\$150.00
Milk Fever	6.5%	3-5%	\$340.00
Retained Placenta	8.6%	5-7%	\$285.00
Subclinical Ketosis	20%	10%	\$236.00
Animals removed <60DIM	9%	<6%	

The key is to record health events when they happen



the Dairy Farm We Care.

Canadian National Health Project Dairy Cattle Health Definitions

These are the main dairy cattle diseases and health events and their corresponding definitions. Please record the incidence of these events in your DHI calendar, log book, software, etc.) and provide to your DHI staff.

work with your

(dairy, or within) include influential

2. **Leukemia**
Abnormal gait antitoxic to either the foot or leg

3. **Mastitis**
Inflammation of the mammary gland

4. **Metritis**
Inflammation of the uterus

5. **Displaced Abomasum**
In cows greater than 10 DMI and per diagnosed

6. **Ketosis**
Depressed appetite with evidence of elevated milk

7. **Retained Placenta**
Failure to eliminate placenta within 24 hours of calving

8. **Milk Fever**
Hypocalcemia

9. **Other**
All other conditions

10. **Other**
All other conditions

11. **Other**
All other conditions

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41. **Other**
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42. **Other**
All other conditions

43. **Other**
All other conditions

44. **Other**
All other conditions

45. **Other**
All other conditions

Healthy Cows for Quality Milk

The Canadian National Health Project

Record health data for dairy herd management and improved profitability. Join Canada's dairy producers and become a world leader with national genetic evaluations for health traits.

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culled in early lactation at less than 60 days in milk—a major loss in profit and future herd potential.

How Health and Disease Data are Recorded

Most disease occurrences are recorded on the DHI calendar or log book kept in the barn. Some data is recorded directly into on-farm computers so the DHI customer service rep can upload the information when visiting the farm.

Recording must be convenient, according to Dr. Shewfelt. His clients place a whiteboard next to the calving area so all calving time occurrences can be recorded on the spot. Information can be transferred to the computer or log book later. The key thing is to record health events when they happen, and it is important to record all disease occurrences throughout the year.

A great advantage to entering data

into a large national database is the ability to form benchmarks. These can offer averages that the producer can use to compare his own herd to similar herds in the area or across the country. He can then evaluate success or the need for improvement.

As it will take time to develop benchmarks, both veterinarians advise using incidence rates as a guideline. As well, Dr. Shewfelt has developed a set of goals for diseases that he gives his clients so they can compare their performance to an ideal (Table 1).

Dr. Shewfelt has had success in helping clients, who keep disease records, solve herd problems of ketosis and clinical mastitis. An example of use of herd records is the identification and correction of problems caused by heat stress in a herd.

According to Dr. Ceelen, once a producer begins to routinely record diseases, benefits can be instant.

One client had a high incidence rate of over 20% ketosis in his herd. Through recording and monitoring,

they determined that the problem was management of his transition cows. They made changes in management, including improving bunk space. Ketosis incidence dropped to near zero.

By recording and monitoring health conditions, the producer and veterinarian can identify the problem, get a good indication of the cause, fix it, and also monitor results to see if actions worked.

Both vets are enthusiastic that the National Health Project offers a simple, objective way to monitor disease conditions in a herd. The payback in being able to manage and reduce incidence of costly diseases in one herd can be worth thousands of dollars.

In time, collection of accurate disease data can be used in genetic evaluations to bring about long-term improvement.

For further information and how to become involved, talk to your DHI customer service representative or veterinarian.



Export Expediency

**No need to jeopardize
Holstein sales and markets**

Marketing Obligations ...

Everyone in the industry has a role to play in the successful exportation of dairy cattle, chiefly to the US.

On an ongoing basis, particularly when preparing to ship cattle out of country, **dairymen** must ensure that all animals are dual tagged with identical numbers; one must be an RFID component. The official national tag number must match the original number on the Certificate of Registry.

In desperation, some producers have inserted a yellow beef tag as the RFID component. While convenient at the time, this presents a significant problem as conflicting numbers appear in the animal's ears. This number also differs from the Certificate of Registry, which acts as an official age verifier.

The simplest method is for producers to acquire and attach dairy tag replacements with corresponding numbers, which also aid in age verification. Free replacement tags can be acquired within 10 days at regular postal rates.

It is a **trucker's** responsibility to accept and transport only properly-tagged animals.

When preparing health charts, **exporters** must replace lost ear tags. Shipped animals should carry a visual printed ear tag number matching the other ear number. Again, one tag must be an RFID component. However, if for some reason numbers do not match, then both numbers must be recorded on the Export Health Certificate and

Annex of Certificate HA1941

Veterinary Health Certificate

NAME OF EXPORTER: Walker Dairy Inc.
ADDRESS: RR1 Aylmer, Ontario, N5H 2R1
(519) 765-2406
NAME OF IMPORTER: DEAN SMITH
ADDRESS OF DESTINATION: RD 1 BOX 128
RUSHFORD, MN 55971
FEDERAL AND/OR STATE IMPORT PERMIT NUMBER (if required):



Exporter's Loading List.

Otherwise, even if the shipment makes it across the border with a visual check, there is the possibility that the different numbers will be detected at a US destination or abattoir, etc., and the entire shipment condemned. In fact, this has already occurred because of incomplete paperwork and conflicting IDs.

Doing its part to support successful exports, **National Livestock Identification for Dairy (NLID)** will provide rush export service within 48 hours (2 working days) to assembly stations requiring replacements.

Even then, glitches can occur. For example, when Walker Dairy Sales complete their final preparations the day prior to shipment, a RFID tag may be missing. In this case, a beef tag (yellow backup) is attached to the animal and cross-referenced on

both the **Veterinary Health Certificate (Annex of Certificate HA1941)** and Exporter's **Loading List**.

Exporting to USA ...

- ensure that all animals are tattooed (ears clipped, extra ink removed, etc. for visibility)
- make sure sores from hot brands are scabbed over (2-3 weeks)
- complete a *notice of appointment for inspection* form if required
- print *veterinary notification* form on carbonless (NCR) paper
- book border crossing time in advance
- be at the border on time
- be aware that state veterinarians have jurisdiction and may impose additional requirements
- call the appropriate USDA office for clarification

National Accountability ...

Health of Animals maintains a central import/export database at CFIA. Export Health Certificates initiated by accredited veterinarians go to CFIA, which includes a number of reserve animals. Exporters are expected to report all export tag numbers to CCIA for animal movement and tag retirement (export).

At some point, all reporting channels and systems should be integrated to promote consistency and one-step process.

A World of Opportunity

by Rick McDonald, Executive Director, CLGA

At the Canadian Livestock Genetics Association's Endless Performance Conference in November 2006, Calvin Covington of Southeast Milk, Inc., Florida observed a shortage of milk (and therefore cows) in the world.

While Canada's export sales of semen and embryos had been going well since the BSE incident, we had not yet been able to ship any live cattle—in spite of the tremendous work completed by the Government of Canada and industry. Furthermore, prices in Canada were still depressed.

However, four months later on March 2, 2007 a planeload of 85 head to Barbados heralded Canada's return to the international dairy cattle marketplace. Between then and October, there were two boatloads to Russia and seven planeloads to Kazakhstan.

Those present at CLGA's Annual Meeting in September listened excitedly to the press conference announcing the US border opening on November 19 to Canadian cattle for any purpose born after March 1, 1999.

In spite of political and legal attempts to prevent it, the US border did open as scheduled. Legal proceedings are still underway that could close the border again, but in

the meantime, cattle continue to move. The latest USDA statistics indicate that 1,498 head crossed in the week ending February 13, 2008.

The worldwide shortage of cattle, the high price of milk, Bluetongue in Europe, and dairy expansion programs in several countries are contributing to opportunities for Canadian cattle that we have not seen in many years.

Access has been restored to Barbados, Cuba, Russia, Kazakhstan, European Union, Ukraine, Serbia, Algeria, Lebanon, Iran, Korea (proven bulls), Tunisia, the USA, and Morocco. We are working actively on Mexico, Croatia, Brazil, Vietnam, Canary Islands, and Egypt. Other countries include China, Korea, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Peru, and Sri Lanka.

Negotiations can be complicated, can take years to complete, and can involve Government of Canada officials from the Prime Minister on down—as well as industry in Canada and the importing country.

However, there really is a world of opportunity out there!



BREAKING NEWS Mexico Opens Border

"For five years we have been waiting for an agreement to ship cattle to Mexico," says Jim Weaver, WeaverCroft International Ltd. Pierre Trudeau of Trudeau International Livestock Sales adds, "Now, we have an export certificate that may not be ideal, but is workable for us to enter the Mexican market."

This breakthrough resulted from intense negotiations among high-profile representatives in both Mexico and Canada. Major Canadian exporters are credited for consulting and committing to support the negotiations.

It is not an easy Health Chart! Restrictions are for cattle under 30 months of age that comply with origin and feeding conditions. There are also policies concerning animal identification, compliance with transit agreements (Canada, US, Mexico), and 30 days notification before exportation. As well, health tests and border inspections are necessary.

Complicated requirements exist for processing cattle from Canadian exporters' farms to the Mexican border. Cattle can even be refused at this point, with any sick or lame animals denied access. Also, there's a limit to the price Mexicans will pay for Canadian dairy cattle even though Canadian exporters have greater shipping expenses than US exporters.

In 2003, before the border closed, the Mexican market had been the second largest after the US for breeding cattle. Since then Australia and New Zealand have filled the void with cheaper cattle.

Canadian exporters will have to work very, very hard to regain this significant market.



Brazilian Classification Advances

Letter of intent signed to implement Canadian international classification system in Brazil

An official signing ceremony was held at Holstein Canada's booth at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair with officials from Holstein Brazil, Holstein Canada, the Brazilian government, and the Canadian Consulate in attendance.

The agreement officially designates Brazil as the second country to introduce the Canadian international classification system, following Australia's successful launch in May 2007.

A Great Fit for Brazil

Canada has always had a strong market for dairy cattle and genetics in Brazil. The interest in adopting the Canadian system came as no surprise, as the two countries have always enjoyed a tremendous working relationship that has been very beneficial to both countries.

The Canadian international classification system will be retro-fitted to satisfy the needs of Brazilian Holsteins and the marketplace.

In terms of cows, the scorecard and traits will be identical to those in Canada. However, the trait weightings, ideal, and measurement standards will be adjusted to reflect the goals



Pedro Guimarães Ribas Neto, Brazil and Holstein Canada President John Iversen sign a letter of intent to implement the Canadian international classification system in Brazil.

of Brazilian Holsteins and their environment.

Moreover, the service will be tailored to the Portuguese language as the Canadian system was designed to easily facilitate additional languages. Brazilian officials will provide translation for the large quantity of terms and text used on computer screens and printed reports.

With report headings identifying the Brazilian Holstein Association, the system will have a *made in Brazil* feel.

In essence, however, Brazil will rely on the advances in conformation made in Canada from both scientific and cow knowledge perspectives. It will deploy this state-of-the-art system of appraisal to accelerate the improvement of its dairy cattle population.

Once again, this initiative demonstrates how a co-operative working relationship between two progressive countries can prove favourable for all.



Biosecurity

Every dairy producer knows the importance of biosecurity to herd health and to preventing the spread of disease in Canada.

Elementary guidelines for receiving people to your farm include clean clothing and footwear, disposable footwear, and disinfectant footbaths/footmats at facility entrances.

Your veterinarian will be able to assist you the most to keep infectious diseases at bay. For further information, visit the Canadian Food Inspection Agency website at www.inspection.gc.ca.

Moreover, several different designs for biosecurity signage

are posted on the Holstein website for your convenience and that of sign makers. Just download the file of your choice to create a sign to restrict traffic at facility entry points. Go to www.holstein.ca/English/Services/Biosecurity.asp to either print out an 8.5 x 11 inch PDF version, or direct your sign shop to a high-quality Corel Draw 9 file for production to your own farm specifications.



Top Sires Making Improvement on Dam

Based on 1st Lactation Classifications from January/February 2008

Top 10 Sires with 150+ Daughters Classified in Two-Month Period				Top 10 Sires with 40-150 Daughters Classified in Two-Month Period			
Sire	Daughters Classified [▲]	% Higher than Dam	Daus/Dam Avg. Scores	Sire	Daughters Classified [▲]	% Higher than Dam	Daus/Dam Avg. Scores
Jasper	186	67.2	80.9/80.3	Derek	131	73.3	78.7/77.3
Talent	410	66.8	80.1/79.3	Mandelin	81	69.1	79.5/78.5
Spirte	292	66.8	80.1/79.0	Windows	74	67.6	79.6/78.8
September Storm	703	62.9	80.3/80.0	Kite	70	67.1	81.7/81.2
Goldwyn	209	61.7	80.6/80.2	Lesperron Lambert *ys	44	65.9	79.0/78.8
Igniter	175	58.9	79.6/79.2	Roy	45	64.4	81.1/80.1
Manager	189	58.7	79.1/79.1	Income	98	64.3	78.8/78.8
Morty	506	58.5	79.2/79.3	Redman	114	62.3	80.9/80.4
Modest	272	58.5	80.1/80.2	Lheros	89	61.8	80.1/80.0
Stormatic	230	57.0	79.4/79.5	Merchant	80	61.3	80.0/79.5

*ys - young sire Note: [▲] Daughters are included in the statistics only if both the daughter and her dam calved for the first time before 30 months and were both first classified within the first six months of lactation.

Classification Schedule

mid-round

April	Early	ON – Niagara, Brant, Haldimand Norfolk Qc – Québec, Montmorency, Bellechasse, Montmagny Qc – Drummond, Bagot, St-Hyacinthe, Richelieu, Verchères, Rouville, Deux-Montagnes, Terrebonne
	Mid	ON – Wentworth, Prescott, Russell, Carleton Qc – Lévis, L'Islet, Kamouraska Qc – Labelle, Papineau, Gatineau, Argenteuil, Pontiac, Abitibi, Témiscamingue, L'Assomption, Montcalm, Joliette, Berthier, Maskinongé
	Late	ON – Lambton ON – Leeds, Grenville, Renfrew, Lanark, Bruce, Huron Qc – Rivière-du-Loup, Rimouski Qc – St-Maurice, Champlain, Laviolette, Portneuf BC –
May	Early	ON – Middlesex, Essex, Kent ON – Grey, Halton, York, Peel, Ontario Qc – Témiscouata, Matapédia, Bonaventure, Matane Qc – Lac St-Jean, Roberval, Lapointe, Dubuc, Charlevoix, Chicoutimi
	Mid	ON – Elgin ON – Simcoe, Dufferin Qc – Vaudreuil, Soulanges, Huntingdon, Châteauguay, Beauharnois, Shefford, Richmond, Missisquoi Alberta – South/Central Alberta – Northern
	Late	Qc – Arthabaska Manitoba
June	Early	ON – Peterborough, Northumberland Qc – Mégantic, Wolfe
	Mid	ON – Lennox & Addington, Frontenac, Hastings, Prince Edward, Victoria, Durham, Waterloo Qc – Sherbrooke, Stanstead, Laprairie, Napierville, St-Jean, Iberville PE, NS, NB, NL –
	Late	ON – Oxford Qc – Lotbinière Qc – Brome, Compton

Like many Holstein folk, Doug Karn, Woodstock, ON (left) is an active volunteer. Along with brother Dean, they are acknowledged for their leadership of young people starting out in the dairy industry.

Volunteers Do Good Stuff

by Secretary-Manager Keith Flaman

To give freely of one's self and time with little or no direct benefit is the purist form of charity and generosity.

Volunteers provide an immeasurable service to our society and to our organizations. They constantly give of themselves without expecting to receive a benefit in any material way. They are the quiet leaders that set examples and become mentors for young and old alike.

Exhibiting admirable and

functional life qualities, volunteers are—perhaps above all—models by which to measure ourselves. They are dependable, punctual, enthusiastic, passionate, positive, and a real treat to be around. They make us feel good!

Holstein Canada and the dairy industry are fortunate to have a large pool of helping hands. Assisting at branch and club functions, as well as organizing and managing shows and exhibitions are important to the Holstein fraternity.

Promotion of dairy products and

agricultural education presentations connect the country to the city. The benefits and public relation aspects are enormous. And how could we ever calculate the long-term impact on 4-H, besides other youth programs?

The industry owes tremendous gratitude to all volunteers who give what they can to better the lives of others. Inconspicuous by nature, their efforts often go unnoticed.

On behalf of everyone, we appreciate each and every one of you. You make the world a better place.



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