EAST CAPE Holstein Club News

Visit to Zambia - 2 to 9 October 2011

Andrew Masterson and Francois Potgieter were invited by Semex and A&P International to judge the 3rd Zambian Herd Competition which was held during the first week of October 2011. Animals, mostly Holsteins, on 11 different farms were evaluated over 5 days. The farms under evaluation included commercial as well as small scale farmers. The overall standard of the animals was outstanding and a very competitive herd competition was held. On the Tuesday afternoon Andrew and Francois presented a practical demonstration on the functional correctness of dairy cows. This was attended by 70 small scale farmers and hosted by Zambeef.

The week was ended off with an information day and prize giving on Kushiya Farm in the Mazabuka district, owned by Guy and Lindsay Robinson. Many farmers (commercial and small scale), some who travelled more than 500km, attended the information day. The Zambian Deputy Minister of Agriculture was the guest of honour at this event and presented the prizes to the various winners taking part in the herd competition.



Andrew Masterson, Zambian Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Francois Potgieter with a daughter group presented by Guy and Lindsay Robinson during the information day.

Thank you to A&P International and Semex for making this trip possible.

2011 ECHC Herd Competition - 26 & 27 October

The 3rd East Cape Holstein Club Herd competition took place during the last week of October. The participants in this year's competition were Heinrich Jansen van Rensburg, Bull Jansen van Rensburg, Willem van Vuuren, Stephen Mains-Sheard, Vernon Basson, Dawfred Ferreira, Henri Pretorius and David Masterson. Brett Puttergill and Andrew Masterson judged 200 cattle on farm during the two days, in four different categories. The standard of the competition was very high and the judges didn't always have an easy task. The two days were attended by farmers from as far as Alexandria as well as many industry representatives and sponsors of this event. The results for the herd competition are:

First Lactation cows

- 1. Groenwei 8178 (sire by Alvin)
- 2. Crossways 0937 (sired by Nokia)
- 3. Namutoni 917 (sired by Billion)
- 4. Fredskraal 8177 (sired by Titan)

Second Lactation cows

- 1. Crossways 0782 (sired by Catalyst)
- 2. Crossways 0819 (sired by Toystory)
- 3. Namutoni 833 (sired by Milingo)
- 4. Saragossa 7109 (sired by Boss)

Third Lactation cows

- 1. Groenwei 535 (sired by Mark)
- 2. Saragossa 5082 (sired by Boss)
- 3. Crossways 06119 (sired by Storm)
- 4. Andrich 688 (sired by farm bull)

Daughter Groups

- 1. J-K-R BW-Marshll Billion
- 2. Ladino Park Talent
- 3. Ladino Park Talent
- 4. To Mar D Fortune

owned by Bull van Rensburg owned by Stephen Mains-Sheard owned by Henri Pretorius owned by Dawred Ferreira

owned by Stephen Mains-Sheard owned by Stephen Mains-Sheard owned by Henri Pretorius owned by David Masterson

owned by Bull Jansen van Rensburg owned by David Masterson owned by Stephen Mains-Sheard owned by Heinrich Jansen van Rensburg

owned by Henri Pretorius owned by Dawfred Ferreira owned by Stephen Mains-Sheard owned by David Masterson

Most Uniform Herd

- 1. Alpha Family Trust
- 2. Crossway Farm
- 3. Saragossa Holsteins

owned by Henri Pretorius owned by Stephen Mains-Sheard owned by David Masterson

Best Cow of the Competition

1. Groenwei 535 (sired by Mark)

owned by Bull Jansen van Rensburg

A big thank you to all our sponsors for making this event possible: ABS, Afrivet, Agri-Vet, Alltech, Cipla, CRI, CRV Xseed, DeLaval, Ecolab, Four Lakes, Genimex, Just Water, Lionels Vet, Meadows, MSD Intervet, Novartis, Pfizer, SA Holstein, Semex, Taurus, Woodlands and WWS.



Best cow of the competition: Groenwei 535, owned by Bull Jansen van Rensburg



 1^{st} Place Daughter group, sired by Billion, owned by Henri Pretorius



 2^{nd} Place daughter group, sired by Talent, owned by Dawfred Ferreira



3rd Place daughter group, sired by Talent, owned by Stephen Mains Sheard

Visit to Canada - 2 to 14 November 2011

On invitation from Semex South Africa, Bull and Maricia Jansen van Rensburg and Andrew and Colette Masterson travelled to Canada with their Semex representative in the Tsitsikamma area, Anton Bredell. We attended the Quebec International Show in St Hyacinth, visited seventeen Holstein stud farms en-route from Quebec to Ontario and also attended the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto.

At the Quebec International, 301 Holsteins and 97 Redand-White Holsteins were judged over two days. The Grand Champion of the Holstein show was Jacobs Britany Goldwyn, Res. Grand Champion was Dubeau Jasper December and the Hon. Mention was RF Goldwyn Hailey.



Bull and Maricia handed over the prize to the winner of the Milking Yearling class, Fradon Sanchez Jodie

En-route from Quebec to Ontario, we visited world renowned Holstein farms like Comestar Holsteins, La Presentation, Gillette Farms, Quality Holsteins, Stantons Farm and Claynook Holsteins. Many daughters of many Al bulls were seen on this trip, as well as some very famous dams of Al bulls sold worldwide. Over and above all the Goldwyns we saw on farm and at the shows, the daughters of Ashlar, Alexander, Mr. Burns, Sanchez, Fever and Lauthority were some of the outstanding ones.

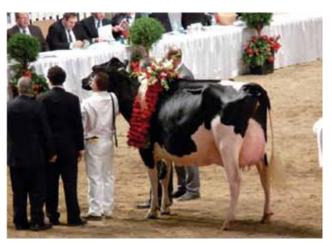




We also visited the facilities of CIAQ, one of Semex's Al stations in St. Hyacinth, Quebec where we saw bulls like Fever, Seaver, Mathys and Buckeye.



During our 3 day stay in Toronto, we attended the Semex International Gala dinner together with 800 other international guests from 75 different countries, the Redand-White Holstein show (98 animals on show), the Sale of Stars auction and the National Holstein Show (387 animals on show). The Grand Champion of the National Holstein show was Eastside Lewisdale Gold Missy, the Res. Grand was RF Goldwyn Hailey and the Hon. Mention was Stone-Front Iron Pasta. What a show to attend and watched by 7000 spectators!



Grand Champion of the National Holstein show - Eastside Lewisdale Gold Missy

We ended off our trip with an overnight visit to Niagara Falls, Niagara on the Lake and the wine farms in the area.

A big thank you to Semex South Africa and The Semex Alliance for making this trip a most memorable one!