

HOLSTEIN PLAZA

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Member Highlight Comfort & Thurler Holsteins

Mark Comfort and Nick Thurler came together in 2012 to establish Comfort and Thurler Holsteins in Eastern Ontario, Canada, with a common goal to create the highest genomic offspring for GTPI, RZG and GLPI in black & white and red & white Holsteins. They also place a focus on developing the variant red gene (VRC) in order to accelerate genetic progress in red & white and polled animals. With two very different backgrounds, Mark and Nick found common ground in these goals. They believe in gaining access to transmitting cow families and building their own through future generations of donors featuring the genomics they love.

Nick Thurler and Family milk 450 registered Holsteins, 3 times a day in a modern free stall barn, while farming 3000 acres and operating their own milk transportation company in South Mountain, Ontario. Nick is currently serving as Vice Chairman of the Ontario Milk Marketing Board (OMMB) and is a representative for OMMB with the Canadian Dairy Commission. Sons, Robert and Michael coordinate an OPU facility with five Comfort & Thurler Holstein donors every two weeks, along with conventional flushes for embryo export.



2020

April Newsletter

April Proof Run Highlights

April in Wisconsin has worn a few different hats over the years. Ideally, April means spring is on the horizon and it's the official start to the beloved season of mud. More often than not, there is still remnants of snow on the ground and snowstorms still scattered throughout the forecast. This month has begun with uncertainty. Our hearts are filled with heavier worries than the weather.

During these scary times, we want you to continue to be confident in your breeding decisions. While our office has been working different these days, we will continue to bring you accurate and timely information from the proof run.

Holstein Plaza is proud to bring you information on top ranking males and top-ranking females by GTPI, PTAT, NM\$, GPA-LPI, Confirmation, and Color.

**View top 5 lists throughout
this newsletter
and full top ranking lists
on our website at:**

holsteinplaza.com/top-genetics

Pictured Left:
The Comfort & Thurler
Families, owners of
Comfort & Thurler Holsteins
Established 2012

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TOP 5 GTPI PROVEN BULLS

1. AOT SILVER HELIX
silver x supersire x man-o-man
+2997G // +813NM\$
2. PINE-TREE BURLEY
boastful x altaoak x o-style
+2922G // +829NM\$
3. S-S-I JOSUPER ROCKETFIRE
josuper x sterling x robust
+2983G // +776NM\$
4. WELCOME SILVER GRIFF
silver x supersire x man-o-man
+2876G // +738NM\$
5. PEAK HOTLINE
altahotrod x supersire x
man-o-man
+2840G // +575NM\$

TOP 5 GTPI YOUNG BULLS WITH NAAB CODE

1. DENOVO 16429 HERCULES
heroic x frazzled x delta
+3101G // +993NM\$
2. WINSTAR MENDEL-P
entity x windfall x powerball p
+3086G // 980NM\$
3. DENOVO 16785 REMEDY
royal x medley x yoder
+3078G // +939 NM\$
4. RMD-DOTTERER SSI
GAMEDAY
big al x blowtorch x yoder
+3076G // +917NM\$
5. DENOVO 16478 ABUNDANT
royal x medley x yoder
+3068G // +986NM\$

Member Highlight continued...

Mark Comfort is the owner of Udder Comfort, a manufacturer of lotions and sprays made with essential oils and distributed worldwide. Prior to developing this company, he owned the marketing rights for Select Sires across Canada for twenty years.

In 2013, they took a major step forward in their polled program with the purchase of Morsan Ladd After Fools P Red VR. She is the granddaughter of Fools Gold Red VG-88 8* and is sired by Ladd P. Fools P completes seven generations of Very Good or Excellent females, several having earned Star Brood Cow status. She is a proven producer of many successful genomic offspring including:

- a VG red, polled Rubicon daughter who is a prepotent transmitter and produced 40,801lbM (18,507kgM) milking 3x as a 3-year-old
- a polled variant red granddaughter by Hawai who is the No. 1 red GTPI and GLPI female, and ranks in the top 3 for RZG at +161RZG
- a variant red, polled Jedi daughter who produced 32,055lbsM (14,554kgM) at 1-11
- a rare polled black & white Humblenkind daughter, Tara P, from the Jedi, who was the highest combined type and production female for many years in the RZG system

The high type aspect of the Fools Gold VG-88 9 star line is apparent after the 2019 All-European Show, when the Intermediate Champion, M.E.Dal Long P Dandy, from Italy was a 4-year-old black & white granddaughter of Gold Dancer Red VG-88 5 star, the Goldwyn full sister to Fools Gold, that Comfort sold embryos from to 12 different countries. Dandy was developed by Ercole Ladina and is now with Rising Star Holsteins.



Islehaven *Gold Dancer* RED
VG-88-4YR-CAN 5* 89-MS 92-DS



Mark Comfort pictured with Red P

Another highlight from their black & white polled program is Tara P, the No. 1 RZG and RZE female for six months in 2019, scoring +156RZG and +139RZE. Tara P comes from a variant red breeding and has excelled above her black & white counterparts. The extreme combination of RZG and RZE scores caught the eye of many European AI Studs, farther proving the success of the variant red gene.

Marking their entrance into the black & white market, after developing the red and variant red lines, is the purchase of Aija Supersire Makea at the 2013 Sale of Stars in Toronto, Canada. Nick had walked through the barn of sale heifers and was very impressed by the 8-month-old heifer consigned by the Jaquement Family. The Jaquement's immigrated from Switzerland to run a dairy farm in Canada, just as the Thurler Family once did. Mark found interest in her high GTPI and Net Merit scores. She was the talk of Eastern Ontario before the sale. Comfort and Thurler Holsteins purchased Makea and later found she was also high in RZG, a huge bonus to their breeding program.

Aija Supersire

Makea

VG-86-4YR-CAN



TOP 5 LPI PROVEN BULLS

1. PEAK ALTAMARLON
altaspring x o-style x planet
+3547LPI // +12 CONF

2. EDG RUBICON
mogul x robust x planet
+3528LP // +9 CONF

3. S-S-I MILLINGTON TOTEM
millington x jacey x sudan
+3516LPI // +9 CONF

4. WESTCOAST RANDALL
lopitimum x numero uno x
robust
+3514LPI // +13 CONF

5. S-S-I KINGPIN PHANTOM
kingpin x supersire x snowman
+3442LPI // +8 CONF

TOP 5 GPA-LPI YOUNG BULLS WITH NAAB CODE

1. SIEMERS RENEGADE
ROZLINE
renegade x frazzled x rubicon
+3832LPI // +7 CONF

2. PROGENESIS MANHATTAN
positive x guarantee x duke
+3787LPI // +9 CONF

3. WELCOME-TEL HEART 85635
renegade x frazzled x montross
+3779LPI // +8 CONF

4. PROGENESIS MEZZOFORTE
positive x guarantee x duke
+3759LPI // +9 CONF

5. BLUMENFELD RENEGAD
AHEAD
renegade x miles x yoder
+3754LPI // +7 CONF

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Member Highlight continued...



Claynook Faithful *Duke*



Pictured Top:

Comfort Thruler *Tara*



Pictured Bottom:

Comfort Thurler *Skybevy*

After the sale, Makea was sent to Boviteq, a decision proving very valuable when looking at how well she produced and the impact she made on the Holstein breed. Her daughter Chantal, the world's No. 1 GLPI heifer with >+160RZG, sold for \$150,000 to Westcoast Holsteins in 2015. Makea's son, Cover, is a popular proven sire in Europe with GGI and has a flawless linear. Over the years her sons have sold to ABS, Semex, and Select Sires, while daughters have been purchased by influential breeders such as ABS, Sexing Technologies, Pine-Tree Dairy, T-Spruce Farms, Oakfield Corners Dairy, Broeks, and Ever-Green-View.

In nearly four lactations, Makea has made 52,000kg of milk in 1,260 days, averaging 42kg (92lb) a day with 4.2% fat and 3.5% protein. She scored VG-86-3YR-CAN with 89 points for feet & legs and 92 points for dairy strength. Makea's Kingboy daughter, the granddam of Freemax, was scored GP-81-2YR-CAN (83-MS) with a front leg injury at the time. As a heifer, she sold embryos to a German AI Stud, and showed tremendous transmitting ability, leaving a VG-87 Jedi daughter, and the VG-85-2YR Modesty Freespirit dam of Freemax. Mark and Nick were pleased to breed Freemax, the No. 2 RZG sire in 2019, scoring +164RZG.

Returning to the Sale of Stars in 2017, the partnership purchased Claynook Faithful Duke, the incredible Duke daughter who was fresh at 2-years-old in 2019. She is from a VG Silver daughter, out of VG-88 10 star - View-Home MCC Found, and back to the Rudy Missy's. Faithful Duke has already produced a great record of 2-06 3x 357d 22,402kgM (49,387lbM) 646 (1,424)F 663(1,462)P. She is the dam of Comfort Thurler Skybevy who was the No. 1 RZM female at +166RZM with +162RZG during the December 2019 proof run. During this run, Skybevy also scored +93 lbs. of fat and +93 lbs. of protein, with +2728GTPI. Lately she has been busy in the donor pen, filling AI embryo contracts, and is just getting started with sexed semen.

In 2019, the embryo program at Comfort and Thurler Holsteins was based on 80% high RZG numbers, with desirable GTPI scores, and some of the polled gene. In 2020 they plan to continue their focus in the direction of making trouble free cows that can produce and reproduce, while also maintaining their high genomic standards.

To view a list of donors and follow along with their success, visit the Comfort and Thurler Breeder Page on our website at holsteinplaza.com/comfort.

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Industry Events

With so many events being canceled due to the current global situation, we want to keep you up to speed on what events are being canceled or rescheduled and which are continuing on as normal. Events listed below in Red have been canceled or rescheduled for a later date.

Apr. 7	Official Genetic Evaluation Release
Apr. 8-11	NY Spring Dairy Carousel
Apr. 8-9	Best of Blackfire Tag Sale
Apr. 9	Hall of Fame Collection Sale
Apr. 10	Oklahoma State Holstein Sale
Apr. 10-16	Holstein Plaza Online Embryo Auction
Apr. 11	Northeast Spring National Holstein Show
Apr. 11	MN Spring Special Sale
Apr. 15-18	Canadian National Holstein Convention
Apr. 18	Mid-Atlantic Calf Sale
Apr. 18	Hawkeye Holsteins Endless Opportunities Sale
Apr. 18	Stars At Stadview - Franchise Edition
Apr. 18	Born to Show Sale
Apr. 18	NY SUNY Cobleskill Dairy Fashions Sale
Apr. 22-23	Ontario Spring Show
Apr. 22-29	Wisconsin Dairy Showcase
Apr. 23-24	Quebec Spring Show
Apr. 24-30	Holstein Plaza Online Embryo Auction
Apr. 24	California Spring Jersey Show
Apr. 24-25	California State Holstein Show
May 5	Official Genetic Evaluation Release
May 8-14	Holstein Plaza Online Embryo Auction
May 9	Spring Celebrations IV Sale
May 15-22	Holstein Plaza Online Heifer Sale

Share your event details with thousands of industry members across North America. Contact us today to have your event added to our monthly newsletter and advertised on our website!

TOP 5 PTAT HEIFERS

1. SIEMERS SRG APPLE 30689
surge x jacoby x mogul
+4.02 PTAT
2. LIMA UNDENIED BEAUTY
undenied x doorman x dempsey
+4.00 PTAT
3. MS LACES CRUSHABULL LILLY
crushabull x avalanche x atwood
+3.94 PTAT
4. MS LACES UPGRADE LACIE
upgrade x avalanche x atwood
+3.84 PTAT
5. JIMTOWN KD NARCISA
doc x doorman x atwood
+3.84 PTAT

TOP 5 NM\$ HEIFERS

1. LEVEL-PLAIN DENOVO 1293
heroic x achiever x delta
+990NM\$ // +3078GTPI
2. BOMAZ LEGACY 9216
legacy x altatopshot x yoder
+970NM\$ // +3040GTPI
3. BOMAZ KENOBI 8852
kenobi x altatopshot x yoder
+965NM\$ // +3062GTPI
4. PINE-TREE 7596 HERO 8571
heroic x achiever x morgan
+962NM\$ // +3003GTPI
5. WILRA SSI LEGACY 2013
legacy x spectre x rubicon
+961NM // +3030GTPI

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