



# Genesis happenings



## HARMONY-HO HOLSTEINS

*Stratford, Wis.  
Ralph and Sharon Bredl  
Herd Manager: Martine Lueck  
Farm Manager: Keith Gadke*

Established in 1989 as a 60-cow dairy, Harmony-Ho Holsteins has grown and expanded over the years to its current size of 500 cows.

Began working with the GENESIS program in 1999

### Average production:

- 30, 480 pounds milk
- 3.8% fat and 3.1% protein
- Current Pregnancy Rate of 22%

**Breeding Goals:** Lifetime Cheese Merit and Udder Composite

In 2007, Harmony Dairy Specialty Foods was established with the purchase of a local cheese plant. Specialty cheeses are produced from the Harmony-Ho milk supply.

### GENESIS happenings at Harmony-Ho:

- Currently flushing 10 different donors
- Just completed the highest Fat record ever in GENESIS  
**BEYERCREST JULIA CRI-ET, VG-85 (#5750)**  
*by Ramos*  
3-04 360d 35031m 5.2 1820f 3.5 1213p lbs.
  - Maternal sister to 1H006802 Judd
  - Pregnancies by Frank, Red-Oak, Meteor, Ironic and just flushed to Robust
  - Active daughters at \$652 and \$511 currently being flushed at Stony Hill
  - \$592 Super daughter approaching flush age at Stony Hill

## WHAT IS GENESIS?

*By Darin Johnson, Dairy Procurement Specialist*

In 1989, GENESIS nucleus began as a pilot project with calves raised in a shed. The main objective at the onset of the program was to maximize genetic progress through a shortened generation interval as well as create a scenario that allowed females to accurately be evaluated in a competitive commercial environment.

Today, GENESIS refers to a nucleus of herds utilizing breeding strategies and genetic or reproductive technologies to produce elite, highly-profitable males and females for generations to come. The GENESIS herd is partly made of females resulting from embryo purchases, designated by the CRI suffix, combined with Genex-owned females identified with the CO-OP prefix. In the last several years, GENESIS has grown and evolved to become so much more.

Since its humble start in 1989, GENESIS has continued to grow. In 1999, the milking cows were consolidated in the Harmony-Ho herd. (Read more about Harmony-Ho on page one.) Two years later, a second cooperator herd, United Pride, was added. (Read more about United Pride on page two.) In recent years, additional herds have joined GENESIS as mutual opportunities were identified. The Genex board of directors has recognized the genetic advantage and the significance of GENESIS. Therefore, in 2010, the board approved plans to significantly expand the GENESIS program.

Today, the GENESIS program is made up of 11 herds and 5,600 cows. Through close cooperation with Genex, these herds broaden their genetic base and further generate farm profitability, a philosophy that falls in line with the true spirit of member cooperatives and the CRI mission statement. Herds that make up the GENESIS 'family' are:

Brandvale	Ellsworth, Wis.	Hyde-Park	Zumbro Falls, Minn.
Brown Star	Gillett, Wis.	Pond Hill	Fort Atkinson, Wis.
Dryhouse	Belleville, Pa.	River Bridge	Brillion, Wis.
Fairmont	East Montpelier, Vt	Spring Prairie	Hawley, Minn.
Harmony-Ho	Stratford, Wis.	United-Pride	Phillips, Wis.
Heidi Farm	Bainsville, Ontario, CAN		



## UNITED PRIDE DAIRY

Phillips, Wis.  
Ed Jasurda and Jon Pesko

Established in 1996 through the consolidation of Ed's 60-cow Guernsey herd and Jon's 100-cow Holstein herd. Today, the herd numbers over 1,600 cows.

Began working with the GENESIS program in 2001

### Average production:

26,995 pounds milk  
4.1 % 1096 Fat and 3.2% 872 Protein  
Current Pregnancy Rate of 16% (herd size just doubled from 800 to 1600 cows)

**Breeding Goals:** Lifetime Net Merit, medium-sized cattle with good feet and legs and good udders

In 2010, United Pride completed a major expansion with the addition of a 60-cow rotary parlor and a 1,200 stall cross-ventilated barn.

### GENESIS happenings at United Pride:

**MURANDA MRSHAL LIZY CRI-ET , VG-88, DOM (#5179)**

Nominated for 2010 Holstein International Cow of the Year

Sons currently being marketed:

**1H009092 Lazarith**

**1H008658 Logan**

**1H008654 Lloydie**

Granddaughter currently being flushed:

**Co-op Lynch Lydia-ET, VG-85 (#9102)**

### NET-A-WAY PARIS CRI-ET (#5148)

from the same family as 1H005500 Paradox-Red

Prolific daughter of Paris:

**Co-op O-Man Pandora-ET \*RC, VG-85 (#5569)**

Pandora's offspring highlights to date:

**1H009951 Pembroke \*RC**

**Co-op Toystry Peace 2409-ET, VG-86**

#3 GTPI Cow on the Red/Red Carrier list

Numerous pregnancies at Spring Prairie and Stony Hill

**Co-op UPD Shottle 3578-ET**

+\$685 Lifetime Net Merit

27 pregnancies to date

**United Pride Cassino 3982 \*RC**

+\$705 Lifetime Net Merit, making her the

highest Red/Red Carrier female in the United States

Currently approaching flush age

# PROPERLY MANAGING DAIRY CATTLE RECIPIENTS IN AN EMBRYO TRANSFER PROGRAM

By Ashley Sprengeler, Dairy Cattle Genetics Intern

In an economy that's causing farmers to rethink management strategies, dairymen must be smart when using embryo transfer (ET) programs as a way to increase herd productivity. Any dairyman who has dealt with ET knows that even the most successful program is costly. Attaining and caring for suitable recipients is one of the greatest costs in any embryo transfer program. Therefore, proper recipient management is critical to success.

Usually, there's a reason why dairy cattle are chosen to become recipients. They are not genetically superior for traits related to health, production, conformation, or their pedigree. Therefore, many dairy farmers tend to overlook their recipient management. However, recipients play an important role in an ET program because they are carrying the one thing you hope to gain from embryo transfer: a healthy, well-grown, genetically superior calf.

It is frustrating to invest all the time and money of supplying suitable dairy recipients to ultimately not get a pregnancy out of the transfer. Below are a few management areas to improve the chances of a successful pregnancy.

**Good Health and Nutrition** A veterinarian should check recipients to be reproductively healthy before they are put on the ET program. These cows also must be on a sound herd health program. Heifers should be well grown, cycling regularly and at least 15 months old. Dairy recipients must be on a proper plane of nutrition at time of implantation.

**Proper Dry Period** This includes proper rest period between lactations, specific dry-off procedure, a clean environment for dry cows, and adequate vitamin supplementation (A, D, E, Selenium) to the dry cow ration.

**Accurate Synchronization Protocols** To maximize embryo survival in the recipient female following transfer, conditions in the recipient reproductive tract should closely resemble those in the donor. A proper synch protocol must be discussed with a vet or well-educated ET practitioner. It must then be clearly written and verbally communicated with all the employees working with the reproductive program (i.e. giving shots, detecting heats and breeding.)

**Management and Communication** Effective management and clear communication should be at the forefront of any successful dairy operation. Proper training of employees and awareness of expectations is crucial to having a well-run dairy farm. It is important to have organized protocols for everyday procedures, especially for complicated programs like embryo transfer. Regardless of farm size, number of cows, or number of employees, successful managers prefer to concentrate on one simple yet important concept: breeding good cows and taking good care of them.



Co-op Boliver YoYo-ET, VG-85, VG-MS

### GENESIS Females Strong in Industry Rankings

- #1** GTPI cow, CO-OP Boliver Yoyo-ET
- 22** of the Top 200 LNM genomic-tested cows
- 10** percent of the females \$700 NM and higher are GENESIS females
- 58** females \$600 LNM and higher
- #1** Red Carrier heifer for LNM\$
- 29** GENESIS CO-OP bulls with semen currently available

## DONOR DIARY



### KINGS-RANSOM TM DEVA CRI-ET, VG-88, DOM 3-02 365d 42,681m 3.4 1444f 3.1 1336p lbs.

- 195 embryos recovered to-date from 15 different sires
- Dam of 1HO09167 O-Style and 1HO03048 Dauden Isy
- At Pond Hill:

*Deva's just-fresh Colby daughters are at \$585 and \$545 LNMS*

*Deva's grand daughters all over \$500 LNMS are sired by Bolton, Kamin, Sebastian, and Bogart that are approaching flush age.*



### CO-OP RAMOS INDIGO-ET, VG-87

2-02 217d 18,531m 305 646f 2.8 527p lbs.

- The highest scoring, first score two-year-old ever in GENESIS
- Maternal sister to 1HO09967 Ironic & 1HO02730 Iceman
- Pregnancies by Freddie, Liesel, Robust & just flushed to Lewis



### WEBB-VUE BURT BABIE CRI-ET, VG-85

1-11 365d 27,332m 4.2 1228f 3.6 977p lbs.

- Bogart son at \$604 that will be sampled
- Super daughter at \$642 and two Bowser daughters over \$500
- Pregnancies by Karsten, Dorcy, Clark, Digger and Paul
- Embryos to implant by Frank and Gallon

## PUTTING THE 3K GENOMIC TEST TO WORK ON YOUR FARM

By Angie Coburn, Dairy Procurement Manager

With the 3K genomic test now routinely available, Genex has transitioned to using this less expensive test as an initial screening tool for bulls. Likewise, we've begun using this test on all females, providing the opportunity to greatly increase the number of genomic-tested females in the GENESIS program. As a benefit to GENESIS herds, Genex will cover the costs of 3K genomic testing females in your herds.

**What are the requirements for DNA samples?** At this time, we continue to use hair samples as the best source of DNA for genomic testing. Animals can be tested at any age. However, for animals less than three months, don't be shy about how much hair you collect, as the hair follicles are less mature. Simply apply the hair sample to the GeneSeek hair card, and label the front of the card with the appropriate identification information. Please contact your Genex genetics staff member if you need more hair cards. *Helpful Hint: Minimize handwriting ID information by utilizing the extra ID sticker from breed association ear tags to label the front of the sample card.*

**What are the genomic testing deadlines?** Hair samples should be received in Shawano before the last Wednesday of the month to allow adequate processing time for genomic breeding values (approximately 45 days later). For example, hair samples received by January 26th should return results on March 1st. The earlier you get the hair samples in the better, but please try to put them in the mail by the next to last Friday of the month.

**Which animals should be selected for testing?** Don't be shy about asking your Genex genetics staff member for assistance in identifying animals from your herd for genomic testing. We'll start with cows and heifers that are of prospective interest as GENESIS dams, but then can work with you to address further management needs.

**What are the expectations for the 3K genomic PTAs?** The reliability of the 3K results is slightly less than that of the 50K results, yet the 3K test does a marvelous job of sorting your females into high, medium and low groups. Our experience so far in retesting animals with the 50K chip, indicates an average change of only  $\pm$ \$50 NM with upper limits of approximately  $\pm$ \$100 NM.

**Why have there been more animals that did not receive genomic PTAs with the 3K chip?** In the initial months, we had a higher frequency of sample failures at the labs or parent/progeny conflicts at AIPL. About 15 percent of the animals were in a state of limbo, but did receive results within the next month or two. All parties have been working to improve processing conditions and the success rates of returning breeding values. In the last month, we've seen the success rate improve and will continue to keep a close eye on the situation.

**How can the 3K genomic PTAs be used on the farm?** Our recommendation for using the results is to make it part of your daily management decisions as much as possible for your individual needs. Possible decision include which heifers should be used as recipients, which are bred with GenChoice™ semen, and which should be selected as parents of the next generation of elite GENESIS animals. Please share with Genex genetics staff members other ways you have utilized this information on your dairy operation. We will publish suggestions in future newsletters to benefit other GENESIS herds.

**GENEX PRE-RELEASE MATING SIRES**

CODE	NAME	REG NO.	PEDIGREE	LNM	MILK	FAT	F%	PRO	P%	SCS	PL	DPR	SCE	UDC	FLC	PTAT	TPI
1HO10218	DE-SU FREDDIE <b>DENIM</b> 646-ET	000068656227	FREDDIE X WIZARD X MTOTO	808	628	50	0.10	33	0.05	2.54	7.7	3.4	5%	1.20	1.32	1.01	2261
1HO10236	LATUCH FREDDIE <b>LEWIS</b> -ET	000066862273	FREDDIE X MAC X SHOTTLE	777	1319	66	0.06	39	0.00	2.70	6.6	1.5	7%	2.91	2.53	2.86	2378
1HO10257	WEIGELINE FRED SAUGAT <b>UCK</b> -ET	000068585469	FREDDIE X NIFTY X ALLY	773	1091	35	-0.02	41	0.03	2.68	7.3	2.7	3%	1.52	1.47	0.86	2213
1HO10215	DE-SU CASSINO <b>FRANZ</b> 655-ET	000068656236	CASSINO X OMAN X BW MARSHALL	753	960	42	0.03	46	0.06	2.54	6.6	1.9	5%	1.78	2.35	2.00	2303
1HO10217	BOSSIDE MASSEY <b>MASTER</b> -ET	000066294547	MASSEY X PIPPEN X DUSTER	751	1248	68	0.08	51	0.05	2.44	5.0	0.0	7%	2.22	0.88	2.13	2258
1HO10097	CO-OP CASSINO <b>YUENGLING</b> -ET	000068581994	CASSINO X BOLIVER X BRET	744	1091	35	-0.02	41	0.03	2.67	6.6	2.2	6%	2.10	1.04	1.77	2255
1HO10247	WELCOME <b>GERVASE</b> -ET	000066757435	FREDDIE X GOLDWYN X ADDISION	717	698	57	0.12	32	0.01	2.67	6.0	1.9	5%	1.79	2.31	2.08	2229
1HO10245	WELCOME <b>ABRAHAM</b> -ET	000066757469	JEEVES X RAMOS X SHOTTLE	690	736	33	0.02	23	0.00	2.66	8.7	1.5	7%	1.61	2.13	1.74	2193
1HO10220	CO-OP UPD MATRIX <b>PAX-RED</b> -ET	000066591080	MATRIX-RED X OMAN X MARATHON	505	678	16	-0.03	34	0.01	2.67	5.6	1.0	7%	1.47	2.23	1.38	2003

**GENEX ROUTINELY AVAILABLE MATING SIRES**

CODE	NAME	REG NO.	PEDIGREE	LNM	MILK	FAT	F%	PRO	P%	SCS	PL	DPR	SCE	UDC	FLC	PTAT	TPI
1HO09167	CO-OP <b>O-STYLE</b> OMAN JUST-ET	000137611441	OMAN X TEAMSTER X MTOTO	717	1509	48	-0.03	46	0.00	2.70	6.1	1.9	7%	1.63	1.63	1.61	2221
1HO10061	LOCKER-LANE RW <b>BANNING</b>	000139819313	NIFTY X SHOTTLE X FORBIDDEN	669	614	69	0.18	36	0.06	2.70	5.1	1.6	8%	1.25	2.16	2.09	2190
1HO08658	CO-OP OMAN <b>LOGAN</b> -ET	000062030793	OMAN X BW MARSHALL X RUDOLPH	629	1500	79	0.09	56	0.04	2.64	3.4	0.3	5%	0.39	1.80	1.05	2095
1HO09192	LOTTA- <b>HILL</b> SHOTTLE 41-ET	000062942427	SHOTTLE X BW MARSHALL X MANFRED	527	1616	52	-0.03	35	-0.05	2.77	4.3	-1.0	8%	2.82	1.55	2.63	2079
1HO02480	<b>CAMARY</b> ISY *RC	002211467356	ROUMARE X MANAGER X TRIBUTE	595	1348	55	0.03	47	0.03	2.63	4.3	-0.1	8%	1.20	0.96	1.30	2039

**OTHER INDUSTRY MATING SIRES**

CODE	NAME	REG NO.	PEDIGREE	LNM	MILK	FAT	F%	PRO	P%	SCS	PL	DPR	SCE	UDC	FLC	PTAT	TPI
7HO10849	LADYS-MANOR PL <b>SHAMROCK</b> -ET	000068977120	PLANET X SHOTTLE X DEBUT	869	2125	80	0.00	53	-0.04	2.76	8.0	0.3	6%	2.26	1.33	2.97	2450
7HO10524	ROYLANE SOCRA <b>ROBUST</b> -ET	000064966739	SOCRATES X OMAN X MANAT	786	1431	84	0.12	50	0.02	2.78	6.2	0.3	7%	2.06	2.22	2.15	2339
7HO10604	DE-SU <b>OSMOND</b> -ET	000065917483	PLANET X OMAN X BW MARSHALL	730	1367	57	0.03	42	0.00	2.55	6.4	0.0	6%	2.56	1.46	2.93	2298
7HO10721	DE-SU 521 <b>BOOKEM</b> -ET	000066636657	PLANET X RAMOS X HERSHEL	733	1096	52	0.04	49	0.06	2.77	6.7	0.3	7%	2.63	1.97	2.67	2330
7HO10904	SANDY-VALLEY <b>COLT P-RED</b> -TW	000068731810	LAWN BOY X BOLTON X SEPT STORM	577	955	17	-0.06	34	0.02	2.77	6.0	1.9	8%	2.54	2.29	2.22	2145
7HO10780	UNICORN MILLION <b>ABERLIN</b> -ET	000066985571	MILLION X GOLDWYN X OMAN	537	581	35	0.05	20	0.01	2.65	4.6	0.9	8%	3.60	2.10	3.47	2150
7HO10647	LADINODALE <b>AARON-RED</b> -ET	000065919402	LAWN BOY X PARADOX-RED X RUDOLPH	525	180	31	0.09	23	0.07	2.99	5.4	2.2	6%	1.83	1.32	1.44	2008
11HO10814	ROSYLANE-LLC <b>ALTATREASURE</b>	003004886557	BOLIVER X RAMOS X OMAN	701	968	54	0.08	34	0.02	2.74	6.5	1.2	6%	2.11	0.81	1.63	2174
11HO10662	SULLY <b>ALTAJUPITER</b> -ET	000066011448	PLANET X SHOTTLE X OMAN	666	1911	45	-0.09	56	0.00	2.84	5.3	0.4	5%	2.39	0.44	2.09	2199
29HO14768	BERRYRIDGE JEEVES <b>JIVES</b> -ET	000066762643	JEEVES X SHOTTLE X BW MARSHALL	770	1785	62	-0.02	52	-0.01	2.70	8.3	-0.4	8%	1.70	2.02	2.19	2319
29HO14613	LARCREST <b>CYPRUS</b> -ET	000053766362	PLANET X SHOTTLE X OUTSIDE	688	1968	104	0.12	54	-0.02	2.81	4.6	-1.4	7%	1.86	0.65	2.41	2210
29HO14733	UFM-DUBS <b>SHERAC</b> -ET	000065780183	ACTIVE X SHOTTLE X ROY	633	941	56	0.08	41	0.05	2.88	4.7	2.3	6%	2.23	1.99	2.53	2234
147HO02220	DUDOC <b>TOUBIB-P</b> *RC	000104800948	TOYSTORY X OSWALD-P X RUBENS	407	943	24	-0.04	24	-0.02	2.92	4.1	0.8	8%	2.04	1.56	2.71	1859
151HO00562	ARRON DOON WEST PORT <b>MAGNA-P</b> *RC	000007823945	BOLTON X SEPT STORM X R STEVEN	354	856	44	0.05	29	0.01	2.81	1.9	-1.3	10%	1.96	1.59	2.20	1837
200HO02366	WEST PORT ARRON DOON <b>MITEY-P</b> *RC	000008930027	GOLDWYN X SEPT STORM X R STEVEN	413	50	46	0.17	17	0.05	2.65	2.1	0.4	7%	1.57	1.94	2.36	1889