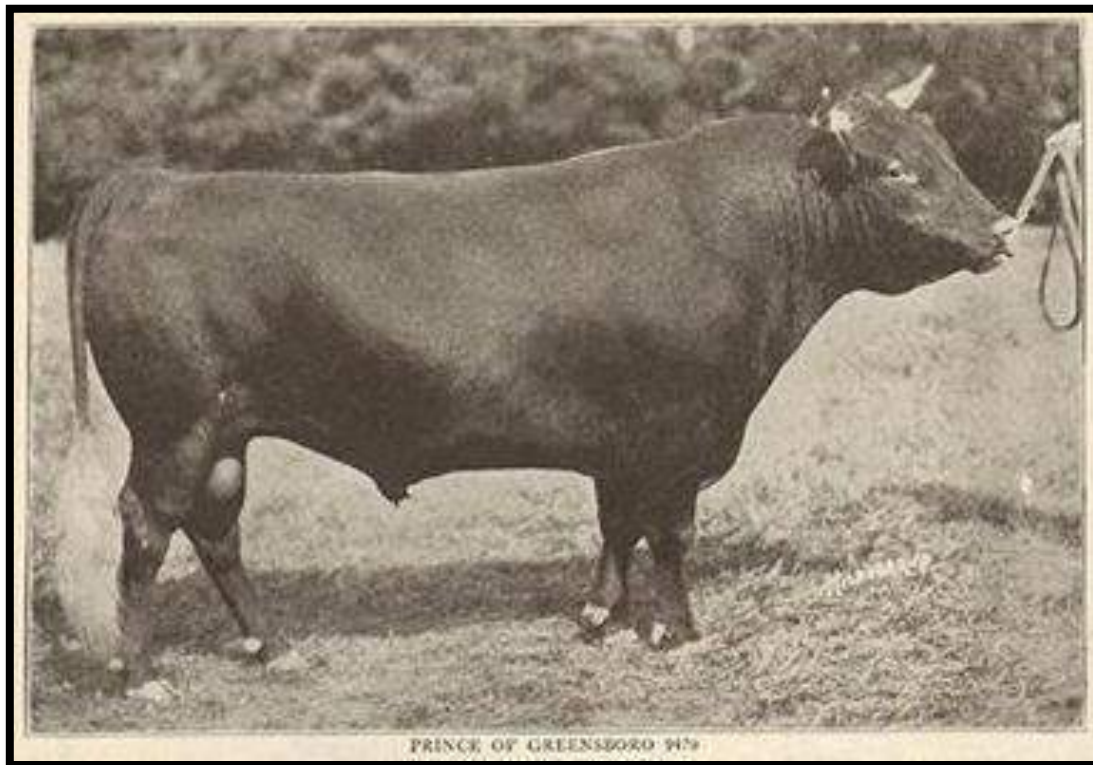


Andrew Van Ord, Secretary
(412) 795-5183
oxhilldevons@gmail.com

AMDCA Newsletter December 2015
Volume 2, Issue 3

American Milking Devon Cattle Association

Established in 1978 to promote the conservation of American Milking Devon cattle as a triple purpose breed by maintaining a breed registry, encouraging knowledgeable and responsible breeding, and educating the public about the historic role of American Milking Devon Cattle, as well as their place in a healthy sustainable agriculture.



Prince of Greensboro 9476

From a Nov 27, 1924 brochure for Batchelder Farms, Mont Vernon, New Hampshire

To stop receiving the newsletter or if you have suggestions, content or announcements to be included, please contact Tom Slater patriotsretreatfarm@yahoo.net.

Reminders from the Directors:

The Board of Directors is seeking volunteers to host and organize future fall gatherings.

Please note that all **membership dues should now be sent to Bonnie Hall**. Dues are due January 1, 2016 for the upcoming year. A membership form is included with the newsletter. The form is also available at http://milkingdevons.org/forms/f_mem.pdf

For your reference, rules of registration are listed in the “Member Services” section of the website in the “New Members Guide” <http://www.milkingdevons.org/memguide.pdf>

Reminders:

- Send membership applications, dues, registrations, registration transfers, address and/or email corrections to: Bonnie Hall, 610 East Pond Meadow Road, Westbrook, CT 06498 johnandbonniehall610@comcast.net (860) 399-4611 All checks are to be made out to: “AMDCA”
- Membership dues should be sent in at the first of the year and if not received by the annual meeting, your name will be removed from the breeders and mailing lists and you will not be able to process registrations until the dues are paid.
- Direct questions, concerns, requests for information, etc. to Ray Clark at (802) 626-8306. Ray is the primary contact for the association.

Notices:

Paperback copies of the herdbook Vol 2, and Vol 3 are available here: <https://www.lulu.com/> (search for "herdbook")

AMD in the Media:

“Maple Breeze Farm” by Drew Conroy
Country Folks

Between showers on a warm summer day, in the center of historic Chester, CT, John and Bonnie Hall of Maple Breeze Farm, in nearby Westbrook, are waiting on customers at the weekly farmer’s market. Their booth, covered by a tent, has the “Connecticut Grown” logo on it. John greets customers from the bed of his Ford truck, where there is a refrigerator, with frozen meat for sale — meat from their American Milking Devon Cattle and hogs. Read more at <http://countryfolks.com/maple-breeze-farm/>



Three Eagles Ranch oxen in movie on the Oregon Trail



Rollie (Rolland) and Paula Johnson, and two of their Milking Devon teams worked for Aperture Films on a movie this summer on the Oregon/California/Mormon Trail. They filmed at Independence Rock, Chimney Rock and other historic locations. The Johnsons raise Milking Devons at Three Eagles Ranch in Larkspur, Colorado. See more pictures at <http://tinyurl.com/qgssne2>

Photos by the Johnsons at Chimney Rock State Park

“An emphasis on grazing at Devon Point Farm” By Sally Colby
Country Folks



If you were going to cross the ocean on a ship to a new world and could only take one cow with you, what kind would you take? Patty Taylor, who farms with her husband Erick in Woodstock, CT, says, “You’re going to pick the cow that’s the hardiest, one that can tolerate temperature extremes and rough living conditions, fattens well on grass, and one that can provide milk and meat as well as be used for work.” The animal that fits the bill is the Devon, which is also known as the Ruby Red Devon, Red Ruby or Milking Devon. Read more at

<http://countryfolks.com/an-emphasis-on-grazing-at-devon-point-farm/>

“The similarities of grassfed beef and dairy” by Allen Williams, Ph.D.

Graze, October 2015

Milking Devons receive a mention in an article by Allen Williams, Ph.D. entitled “The similarities of grassfed beef and dairy.” The article appears in the October 2015 issue of Graze. Williams writes: “Successful grassfed dairy farms are milking smaller-framed, lower-producing dairy breeds ... and dual-purpose breeds such as Milking Devon ...”

"The Life Cycle of a Special Milking Devon Cow" by Drew Conroy

Small Farmer's Journal, Summer Vol 39, No 3, pp59-61

There is a whole page of color photographs accompanying Drew's account of his raising of Emily (actually Alder Brook's Cindy #299). Drew writes "Emily was the epitome of what I thought a cow should be." Although the magazine is only available to subscribers there is a nice picture of Emily at <http://smallfarmersjournal.com/>



"Why American Milking Devons" by Drew Conroy

Rural Heritage, October-November 2015

"Why American Milking Devons" appears in the October-November 2015 issue of Rural Heritage. Drew's article is available on line. Start looking for it at:-

https://www.ruralheritage.com/new_rh_website/index_green.shtml

Send reports of Milking Devons and Milking Devon breeders in the media to <lcgilley@tds.net> for mention in future issues of the newsletter.

Mother Earth News Fair - Seven Springs, Pennsylvania

Kerry Cattle Association leaders graciously represented Milking Devons as well as Kerries at the Mother Earth News Fair at Seven Springs, Pennsylvania, September 18-20. They displayed posters and banners. They distributed pamphlets, answered questions and told fair-goers how to find out more about Milking Devons. Shannon Rice-Nichols and her team (Dana Wakefield, Sienna Wakefield, Jess Aller and Claire Nichols) deserve thanks for their efforts on behalf of Milking Devon breeders.

Last year, Shelly Oswald put together a team of Milking Devon breeders to staff a booth at Seven Springs. Kendy Sawyer led breeders who represented Milking Devons at the Mother Earth News Fair at Asheville, North Carolina in April 2015 (see the report and photographs in the last issue of the Newsletter).



Claire Nichols at the Kerry Cattle booth

HEALTH OF THE HERD BULL by Russ Daly, DVM, Extension Veterinarian

South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service, Extension Extra, May 2008 – with permission

INTRODUCTION

The importance of the herd bull to the reproductive performance and profitability of cow herds that utilize natural service cannot be underestimated. Health problems in a bull may result either in decreased fertility in that bull or, in the worst case, in an infectious disease that could spread to the rest of the breeding herd, with disastrous results for herd fertility. For these reasons, the health of incoming and existing herd bulls is of utmost importance.

HERD BULL DISEASES OF IMPORTANCE

Conditions that can affect bulls may be divided into two categories: 1) infectious diseases that may affect the herd beyond the bull's own fertility and 2) conditions that affect the bull himself and his ability to successfully breed cows.

A. Herd Conditions

1. *Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD)*. BVD is a viral disease that has the potential to cause profound detrimental effects on herd fertility. BVD infections in pregnant cows may result in a wide range of clinical signs, including formation of persistently infected (BVDV-PI) calves, abortions, or birth defects. BVDV is also an immunosuppressive agent, and animals infected with BVDV are more susceptible to secondary infections.

Bulls can be infected with BVDV either transiently or persistently and serve as a source of infection for cows. BVDV-persistently infected bulls are relatively rare, but they represent a tremendous source of BVDV exposure for cows and other cattle present on pastures. BVDV can be shed in the semen of persistently and transiently infected bulls.

2. *Trichomoniasis*. Bulls are the primary reservoir for trichomoniasis, a protozoal disease that is transmitted venereally. Trichomonas infections cause inflammation within the female reproductive tract, resulting in a failure to conceive, early embryonic death, or less commonly, abortions. Infected bulls, especially older bulls, persistently harbor the organism in the skin of their penis and sheath. Cows are infected during the act of breeding and serve as a source of infection for uninfected bulls that breed them on the subsequent inseminations.

3. *Leptospirosis*. Several different strains of *Leptospira*, a bacteria, can cause late-term abortions and conception failure. One of these strains, *Leptospira interrogans* serovar *hardjo-bovis*, is "host-adapted," meaning it tends to persistently colonize organs such as the kidneys and reproductive tracts. While Leptospirosis is not a venereal disease, bulls can harbor infections and serve as sources of infection (via urine) for the rest of the herd. Non-host adapted strains can also cause illness (and in cows, abortions), but these strains are not carried long term by the affected animal.

4. *Vibriosis*. The causative agent of vibriosis is the bacteria *Campylobacter fetus* subsp. *venerealis*. The clinical and infectious aspects of vibriosis are very similar to those of trichomoniasis: the organism causes inflammation in the female reproductive tract, resulting in failure of conception or early embryonic death. Infected bulls are both long-term carriers and a reservoir for infection in the breeding herd.

5. *IBR-Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis*. IBR (or "red nose") is a viral disease often associated with respiratory diseases in younger cattle. It also is a cause of conception failure and abortions in cows. IBR is another illness that may be passed from bulls to cows (and vice versa), although not via breeding.

B. Conditions primarily affecting the individual bull

1. *Johne's disease*. A chronic and progressive bacterial disease, Johne's is significant in bulls because of their potential role in bringing this disease into a previously non-infected herd. Animals affected with Johne's usually only show clinical signs (wasting and chronic diarrhea) after animals are several years old. In spite of this, young calves are most susceptible to infection and may be exposed to Johne's on pasture by bulls or cows shedding the organism (usually by animals with clinical signs).

2. *Lameness* due to injury or infection. Musculoskeletal injuries resulting in lameness, often as a result of fighting, are common in multiple-bull pastures. In addition, foot rot, or interdigital dermatitis, can affect bulls frequenting areas such as stock dams or waterways. Besides the obvious detrimental effect on a bull's locomotion, pain and stress associated with these ailments decreases sperm production through the effect of excess cortisol on testosterone production.

3. *Pinkeye*. Bulls are visual breeders (they depend on vision to follow the herd and identify cows in heat). Infectious bovine keratoconjunctivitis (IBK, or "pinkeye") not only will affect a bull's vision but also is a source of pain and stress for the animal.

4. *Vesiculitis*. The seminal vesicles, glands located within the bull's pelvis, contribute seminal fluid to the ejaculate. Inflammation of these glands, which is termed "seminal vesiculitis," may be detected in bulls--especially younger bulls--presented for breeding soundness examinations. This inflammation usually stems from a bacterial infection entering the gland from the bloodstream (as a consequence of rumen acidosis, liver abscesses, or infection elsewhere in the body). The presence of pus in the ejaculate means these bulls are not fit for breeding. Young bulls with vesiculitis often respond to antibiotics or a period of sexual activity, but in older bulls this condition is usually chronic and unresponsive to treatment.

5. *Other conditions*. Any illness resulting in fever for a prolonged period of time may depress semen quality. In addition, infections due to Gram-negative bacteria anywhere in the body may depress sperm formation due to release of endotoxins into the bloodstream.

Substances such as gossypol (a common component of cottonseed meal) and zearalenone (a toxin produced by certain molds in certain feeds) may have detrimental effects on sperm production. Although data is very limited, there is no evidence to suggest routine antibiotics, non-steroidal anti-inflammatories, or parasiticides have effects on semen quality.

BIOSECURITY CONCERNS FOR PRODUCERS BUYING BULLS

Biosecurity may simply be defined as "practices employed to ensure new diseases (or strains of disease causing agents) do not enter the existing herd." A biosecurity program for cow-calf operations may be divided into pre- and post purchase considerations.

A. Pre-purchase information

Just as a bull's EPD or genetic makeup is important to the future calf crop, a bull's health history or herd of origin is important to the future health of the herd. The health aspects that are important depend on what level of herd health the buyer seeks. For example, a buyer who has a Johne's testing program in place on his/her operation will by necessity be concerned with the Johne's status of the animal he/she is purchasing. Other factors, such as BVD-PI animals, are important to keep out of the herd no matter the circumstance.

In some cases concerning infectious disease, the test status of the herd is more important than the test status of the individual animal. Certain diagnostic tests, such as the current blood tests for Johne's disease, have low sensitivity in detecting individually infected animals. However, when that test is applied to many individuals in the herd, the chances are greater that at least one infected animal will be detected (and the herd therefore identified as Johne's-positive). An individual animal originating from a Johne's infected herd, even an animal that tests negative after its herd has been diagnosed as Johne's-positive, is at risk for clinical illness later in life. For other diseases, such as BVD-PI status, individual testing is quite sensitive and should be applied to individuals entering the herd.

QUESTIONS TO ASK PRE-PURCHASE

1. *What herd testing is being done in the herd on a regular basis?* Examples of testing to look for include herd status in the voluntary Johne's Control Program, ear-notch testing for BVD-PI, or trichomonas testing of bulls.

2. *What testing has been performed on the individuals for sale?* Examples include ear-notch BVD-PI testing, trichomonas testing (required for non-virgin bulls before sale), or Johne's disease (with consideration of testing limitations as explained above).

3. *What is the vaccination program for herd animals?* Proper vaccination programs for bull calves start before they are weaned and continue on an annual basis. For reproductive diseases, pre-breeding vaccination provides better protection than vaccination during gestation.

4. *Has a Breeding Soundness Examination (BSE) been performed?* A BSE that meets the minimum qualifications outlined by the Society for Theriogenology is the best evidence of the semen quality and soundness of the purchased bull. However a high percentage of yearling bulls may not have reached adequate maturity to pass a BSE. As a result, depending on the age of the bull purchased, a BSE may not have been performed yet.

B. Post purchase procedures that ensure bull health

1. *Isolation*. Incoming bulls should not be exposed to the resident herd immediately. Rather, incoming bulls should be placed in

isolation. Considerations about both the facility used and the isolation time period should be given:

a) *Facility considerations.* Any appropriate-sized pen or building could be used as an isolation facility, provided there is no possibility of nose-to-nose contact with existing herd animals, including shared water or feed sources. Generally, longer distances are better than shorter distances, although most important cattle diseases do not travel long distances through the air. Some conditions are transmitted via the fecal-oral route, so isolation facilities should not drain into spaces that the existing herd has access to, or vice versa. Equipment such as tractors and skid loaders should not travel between isolated animals and the existing herd without being thoroughly sanitized.

b) *Time period considerations.* In general, an isolation period of 30 to 60 days is adequate for an incoming bull to recover from any transient (temporary) shedding of disease agents, for testing procedures to be completed, and for vaccinations to become effective. Stress of transportation may allow once dormant infections, such as IBR virus, to be re-activated. It's important to realize that for some persistent conditions, such as BVD-PI or infection with *I. leptohardjo-bovis*, any amount of isolation time will not be long enough—these conditions need to be addressed through diagnostic testing or treatments.

2. *Disease testing.* During the isolation period, samples for diagnostic testing should be taken and animals not allowed to enter the herd until negative test results are received. Testing new bulls for disease conditions needs to be planned and considered carefully. If a bull tests positive for Johne's disease, for example, and the purchaser elects to keep the animal to enter the breeding herd anyway, testing is a wasteful exercise. Examples of tests that could be employed during isolation are similar to those discussed in pre-purchase testing above.

3. *Vaccination.* The vaccination status of new bulls should match as closely as possible that of the herd they will enter. Vaccinations such as pre-breeding shots or intranasal IBR-PI3 may be considered, depending on the time of year and current herd practices. Knowledge of the bull's prior vaccinations and consultation from your veterinarian will help guide this practice.

4. *Treatments.* The carrier state of *I. leptohardjo-bovis* may be cleared by administration of a dose of long-acting tetracycline. New bulls should be treated with parasiticide products appropriate to the time of year before they are mixed with the breeding herd.

5. *Breeding Soundness Exam.* All bulls should be submitted to a BSE prior to the breeding season. New bulls should be evaluated if they were not tested prior to purchase, if it has been an extended period of time since the last BSE, or if the bull has been injured since the last BSE.

HERD BULL "MAINTENANCE"

Maintaining bull health from year to year depends a great deal on 1) supporting the bull nutritionally, 2) maintaining immunity, and 3) managing parasite loads.

1. *Vaccinations.* Herd bulls are members of the breeding herd, too, and they potentially play a role in disease transmission. Therefore, bull vaccinations are just as or more important than the vaccination of the cow herd. Ideally, vaccines should be administered 2 to 4 weeks before turnout to the breeding pasture.

a) *Viruses.* Common viral vaccine combinations include BVDV, IBR, PI-3, and BRSV. Killed or modified live vaccines (MLV) are available. In general, MLV vaccines stimulate a broader immune response and are usually effective after a single dose, as compared to killed virus vaccines. To date, there is no evidence to suggest that the administration of MLV vaccines to bulls has any detrimental effect on semen quality.

b) *Leptospirosis*.* Five-way leptospirosis bacterins are common and important components of many prebreeding vaccines (as bulls can become infected on pasture and assist the transmission of leptospirosis). Newer vaccines that include *I. leptohardjo-bovis* should be strongly considered as well.

c) *Vibriosis*.* Vaccines against vibriosis are considered effective in preventing, and possibly also in clearing, infections from bulls. Vibriosis is also commonly included in pre-breeding vaccine combinations.

d) *Trichomoniasis*.* Unlike vibrio vaccines, vaccines against trichomoniasis are not effective in prevention of infection. Their role is limited to use in already-infected herds as a means to improve pregnancy rates.

e) *Pinkeye*.* Because of the severe potential effect of pinkeye infection in a herd bull, vaccination should be considered

Protection from pinkeye infections is very strain-dependent, and vaccine failures are not uncommon. For this reason, fly control measures such as insecticide tags, rubbers, or pour-ons are also important.

f) *Footrot**. For bulls in some pastures, foot rot vaccine (against *Fusobacterium necrophorum*) may be considered. Foot rot, like pinkeye, is a multi-factorial disease, and other control measures, such as attention to muddy conditions, should be employed.

- Leptospirosis, vibriosis, Moraxella (pinkeye), and Fusobacterium (foot rot) are Gram-negative bacteria. Vaccinating an animal with more than two vaccines containing these antigens at the same time has the potential to result in excessive levels of endotoxin delivered to the animal- a condition that could result in impaired semen quality or illness in bulls.

2. *Parasiticides*. Treating bulls for internal parasites prior to entry onto the breeding pasture will reduce the bull's parasite load and decrease the amount of worm eggs deposited onto the pasture. Bulls and cows should be treated at the same time. In the fall or winter, a product that treats for external parasites should also be given.

Bulls are of great importance to the reproductive productivity of the cow-calf enterprise, and need to be in optimal health for their best performance. Also, bulls most likely represent the most frequently added animal from other herds, therefore representing a potential source of new disease agents for a herd. Paying attention to health decisions before and after a bull is purchased--and close consultation with a veterinarian--will help ensure that bulls do not become liabilities to the herd.

South Dakota State University, South Dakota counties, and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. South Dakota State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and offers all benefits, services, education, and employment opportunities without regard for race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or Vietnam Era veteran status.

EXEX11024: Access at http://pubstorage.sdstate.edu/AgBio_Publications/articles/ExEx11024.pdf

What is your plan and/or practice to keep your bull healthy and virile?

Steve Burton DVM, Bardwell Farms

Since this Newsletter goes to all regions of the country, I think the best recommendation I can make on immunizing your bull and the rest of your herd is to follow the requirements for entry to your State or Local Fair with input from your local veterinarian for any specific disease patterns he/she is seeing. Also, for those taking in cows to be serviced by your bull, require visiting cattle to have the same immunizations and testing as required by your State Fair committee. For instance, The New York State Fair requires a negative Bovine Viral Diarrhea – Persistent Infection (BVD-PI) result for entry. I would recommend it for all cattle since it's only a once in lifetime test.

Annual Rabies immunization for all your livestock is extremely important.

Spring immunization against Bovine Respiratory Disease Complex including Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR), Type I & II – Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD), Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus – Killed Virus (BRSV-KV), Parainfluenza 3 (PI-3), and a 5-way Leptospirosis. I've always had good luck with the Triangle Series of vaccines. Repeat these immunizations in three weeks if this is their first immunization. Also, repeat these immunizations in the Fall if cattle are moving on and off the farm.



Rob MacLeod, Windhorse Farm

I make sure they always have company so they have the opportunity to socialize with other animals. From the end of June to around the beginning of November the bull runs with my main herd – cows with calves at their side and two generations of steers. The whole group is essentially the extended family/herd, so there are lots of complex cow relationships going on. I operate on the basis that the various complex emotional needs of cattle will be met in this kind of a situation. I do not pretend to understand these needs beyond acknowledging that they exist and need to be met.

A number of years ago I found out the hard way that a heifer can get bred at 6 months (she had a calf on her own and all turned out well), so I make sure the bull is separated by late October or early November. Last



winter my bull Cape Split Farm Jake lived with my dairy cow and a heifer, so there was some kind of contact with me and other animals at all times. This winter he will likely be in the same situation or in a large pen, with a younger steer, that is part of the cow barn and lot. I find this arrangement keeps bulls calm and approachable.

I offer all of my cows a mineral mix composed of Desert Dynamine, Thorvin kelp, Sea 90 salt, Copper Sulfate, and a selenium mineral mix. I also regularly offer Sodium Bicarbonate free choice. I am not scientific about the proportions – I go by memory of past research and a certain amount of

intuition. I am always asking questions like: Do the cows look good? Can I see evidence of healthy hormonal activity on their hides? Do they seem to be asking for anything? Are their manures of a good consistency? When they are in the barn lot, they have the minerals free choice; when on pasture they get them regularly in tubs.

Finally, I am pretty diligent about rotating pastures – new grass every day from turnout through September, and then bigger blocks as needed until snow flies, for me at the end of November or early December. Pastures generally have at least 45 days of rest after a grazing. I graze a lot of ground after taking a first cut and also stockpile a lot of grass in the fall.

Ray Clark, Meadow Brook Farm

There are a number of things which I do to keep my bull healthy. I make sure that he has adequate exercise. I insure that he has good feed, clean water (water is even more important than feed), minerals and salt. My bull is outside all summer. I bring him into the barn in the winter to prevent him from hurting himself on snow and ice. To prevent hoof rot, I keep him on dry ground. I use him only to breed my own cows. Breeding other cows is a recipe for bringing disease onto the farm. Take care not to feed moldy hay which can make it hard for animals to breed. In an area with black leg, consult with the vet about inoculating your bull against the disease, which can remain dormant in the soil for one hundred years. Lastly, if your bull is content, not excited nor stressed it will contribute to his good health.



Erick Taylor, Devon Point Farm

Keeping a Bull healthy and virile begins with a healthy beginning, if you start with a good healthy cow who is fed an all grass diet her gut bacteria and immune functions will be strong, her bull calf will be noticeable superior at birth. The bull calves that we select to become part of our potential herd sire group all exhibit masculinity at a very young age. When compared to other calves of the same age they are noticeable bigger, broader through the shoulders and head. Starting out with the right genetics, coming out of a healthy herd, generationally adapted to a geographic area (environment) and coming from cattle who have never been fed a grain diet all are key factors in having a bull that will be strong, healthy and keep your calving season window narrow. It's so important to start with the right cow and the right herd sire. You simply can't create something great without the right ingredients, genetics, diet and careful selection are the keys to your healthy virile herd sire.

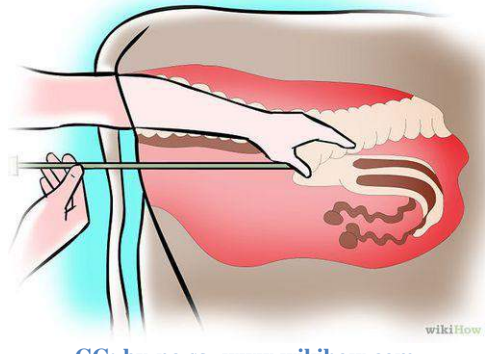


NEXT QUESTION

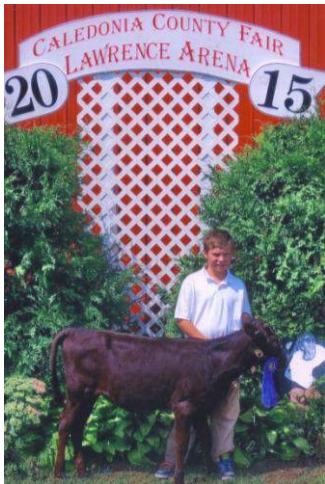
What is your practice and experience with artificial insemination?

Your response might include some of the following details:--

- How do you detect heats?
- Do you breed early or late in the heat window?
- Do you do AI yourself, use a tech, a neighbor?
- How do you arrange for semen to be available?
- Do you use hormone shots to induce heat?
- What are your costs for AI?
- How have you arranged testing of semen viability?
- What arrangements have you made to get your own bull(s) collected?
- How do you choose an AI sire when all you have is names.
- What written materials have you found helpful?



Answers may be edited and included in the next issue of the Newsletter. Please send your contributions to the question to lgilley@tds.net



I won nine ribbons at the fair

by Wyatt Clark (aged 9)

I went to the Caledonia County Fair. I took Jacob and Little Dude, a pair of 6-week old Devon bulls. I won a blue ribbon for best matched pair.

I took Ruby, a five month old Devon heifer. She won a purple rosette for Junior Champion.

I took Huckleberry Heifer, the mother of Little Dude, a two year old Devon heifer. She won a purple rosette for Senior Champion.

This year I won nine ribbons at the fair.

The State Fair by Richard Larson

Marketing is an essential part of raising rare breeds and can take many forms. Based on our experience over the past 20 years, exhibiting / showing our sheep has proven to a cost-effective way to introduce both the public to the rare breed conservation and potential buyers to our farm. Unfortunately, there are not a lot of ready-made opportunities for exhibiting / showing American Milking Devon (AMD) in the mid-Atlantic region.

I recently reached out to the Superintendent, Virginia State Fair, to discuss the possibility of adding an "all other breeds" division to the Fair's Open Dairy Cattle Show. Currently the show is limited to Brown Swiss, Holstein and Jersey breeds. She was very receptive to the idea and will present it for consideration beginning with the 2016 fair. The dairy show is the last weekend of September and offers four calf, three yearling and six aged cow classes in addition to numerous special classes such as Dam & Daughter, etc. Entry fees are minimal, \$10, and premiums range from \$70 to \$15 (10th). Please let me know if you are interested in receiving more information or think you may be interested in exhibiting in 2016.

oldgjerpenfarm@yahoo.com



I think this is a great opportunity and plan to observe the 2015 show later this month. Even at three score and 10, the thrill and satisfaction of receiving a purple rosette is as great as it was when I was a pre-teen showing my father's Holsteins at a Wisconsin county fair!

State Fair of Virginia September 25 – October 4, 2015

<http://www.statefairva.org/>



American Milking Devon Cattle

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EFFICIENT
HARDWORKING



VERSATILE
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<http://www.milkingdevons.org/mem.html>

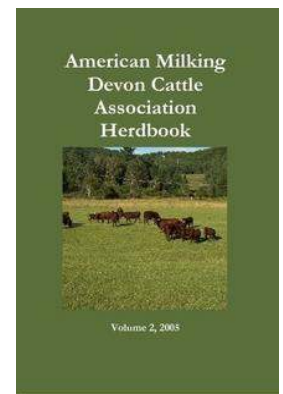
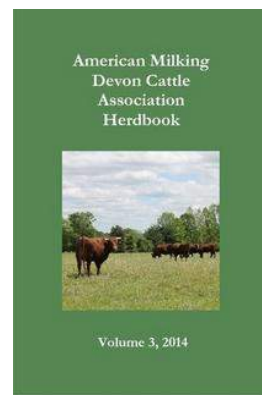
Printed copies of Volume 2 (1955) and Volume 3 (2014) of the American Milking Devon Herd Book may be purchased from Lulu.com

Volume 2

<http://tinyurl.com/amdca-herdbook02>

Volume 3

<http://tinyurl.com/amdca-herdbook03>



Disclaimer: The only official record of registrations is maintained by the registrar. Published herd books may contain errors.

Patti Howell's Raw Ice Cream



- 6 or 7 egg yolks
- 1/3 cup maple syrup
- 1 TBS vanilla extract
- 1 TBS arrowroot powder
- 4 cups raw cream

Beat egg yolks and blend in remaining ingredients.

Pour into a 4 cup tabletop ice cream maker following manufacturer's instructions.

Variations:

Reduce cream to 3 cups and add 2 cups of one of the following:

- Cooked and mashed sweet potato (plus ginger)
- Cherries or other fruit
- Persimmons or cranberries
- Cooked and mashed pumpkin

Recipe for a large churn:

- 12 egg yolks
- 2 TBS vanilla
- 1 cup maple syrup
- 2 to 3 TBS arrowroot powder
- 10 cups raw cream

Patricia and Charles Howell raise and milk Milking Devons at Sun-Moon Farm in Advance, North Carolina. Contact them at 336-940-5143.

Patti's original recipe was based on *Nourishing Traditions*, a cookbook by Sally Fallon of the Weston A. Price Foundation.

Training young bulls by Ray Clark

Training young bulls is important, especially if, like me, you are selling them to other breeders. Yearlings can become frisky and need to be tamed. Young bulls want to be dominant and so they need to be taught that you are dominant.

I break young bulls by tying them next to their father. They will try to push the adult bull around and he will accept it for awhile. Then he will put a stop to it. If it is not possible to tie the young bull next to its father, tie him next to a dominant cow and let her discipline him. Watch what mothers do to control calves.



When you handle bull calves be dominant. Be firm but fair. Correct unacceptable behavior immediately, then and there. Bull calves should become used to being handled and tied. Spend time with them. When you need to get a bull calf's attention to correct it, tap on the horns with something metallic. Rattling the horns resonates in the skull.

I usually have no trouble getting bull calves to respect an electric fence. The fence works best if the calf is well grounded. I like to let the hooves grow long before moving the calf to the paddock. For six to eight months I keep the young bull inside on a wood floor and soft bedding. The hooves grow and

when he is turned out he is better grounded than if he had been allowed to run around and wear down his hooves.

*Properly cared for Milking Devons will work for you,
not you work for them.*

- Diurna Kibbe

"The newsletter has become a great asset to the AMDCA and the Board of Directors would like to thank Shelly Oswald for her service as the Newsletter Editor. We greatly appreciate the many hours she has dedicated to the newsletter. The board would also like to thank Tom Slater for assuming the responsibility of Editor moving forward. "

AMDCA Officers

President / Treasurer

John L. Hall III
610 East Pond Meadow Road
Westbrook, CT 06498
(860) 399-4611 (home) (860) 391-4044 (cell)
(860) 399-2485 (fax)
johnandbonniehall610@comcast.net

Secretary / Communications Committee

Andrew Van Ord
727 Townline Rd
Russell, PA 16345
(412) 795-5183
oxhilldevons@gmail.com

Genetics Committee/Clerk

Ray Clark
1429 Red Village Rd
Lyndonville, VT 05851
(802) 626-8306

Directors

Bruce Farr
51 Catamount Rd
Northwood, NH 03261
(603) 942-8128
farrviewsouthfarm@yahoo.com

Jeremy Michaud
70 Michaud Farm Road
East Hardwick, VT 05836
(802) 472-6261
ljp6@cornell.edu

Dexter E Randall
813 Kittridge Rd
Newport Center, VT 05857
(802) 334-5966
(802) 744-2417

Thomas H Slater
3030 Cripplebush Rd
Central Bridge, NY 12035
patriotsretreatfarm@yahoo.com

Contact:

Please direct questions to Ray Clark at (802) 626-8306

Website: <http://www.milkingdevons.org>

Ray's Corner

Quotes and advice from Director Ray Clark.

"Research the poisonous plants that might be in your area. Some plants are poisonous only when wilted so be sure to research that aspect also. Calves taste things that sometimes they should not, so be aware of and remove the dangers in their environment for their safety. In our area, wild cherry leaves are poisonous when wilted but not a really a problem when green or dry."

Recommended readings:

"Feeds and Feeding" by F.B. Morrison
<http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=coo.31924002927238>

"Merck Veterinary Manual"

<http://www.merckmanuals.com/vet/index.html>

AMDCA Volunteers

Registrar

Bonnie Hall
610 East Pond Meadow Road
Westbrook, CT 06498
(860) 399-4611
johnandbonniehall610@comcast.net

Webmaster

Lawrence Gilley
PO Box 277
Deansboro, NY 13328
(315) 821-6628 lgilley@tds.net

Newsletter Editor

Shelly Oswald
1919 Harrisville Rd
Stoneboro, PA 16153
(814) 786-7687 myorjojr@verizon.net

Newsletter Committee: Lawrence Gilley, Kendy Sawyer, Andrew VanOrd, Jackie Cleary, Ray Clark

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American Milking Devon Cattle Association

610 East Pond Meadow Road, Westbrook, CT 06498

2016

Please check one.

- \$20 - Voting Member – individuals who own registered Milking Devon cattle
- \$20 - Associate Member – individuals interested in furthering the purposes of the Association
- \$20 – Junior Member (one time dues payment, non-voting, under 18 years old)

Make checks payable to the American Milking Devon Cattle Association.

Send completed form and check to:

Bonnie Hall, Registrar, 610 East Pond Meadow Road, Westbrook, CT 06498

Voting members: Please circle if you **do not** wish to be listed in the on-line breeder's list

[NO] Do not include me in the on-line breeder's list.

Please circle "no" below to indicate information you wish **to omit** from the on-line breeder's list.

[No] NAME: _____

[No] FARM/ORG: _____

[No] ADDRESS: _____

[No] PHONE: _____

[No] E-MAIL: _____

[No] WEBSITE: _____

Note: A current membership is required for inclusion in the breeder's list, for voting at the annual meeting and for registering cattle and for transferring the registration of cattle. Please ensure that your membership is up to date.