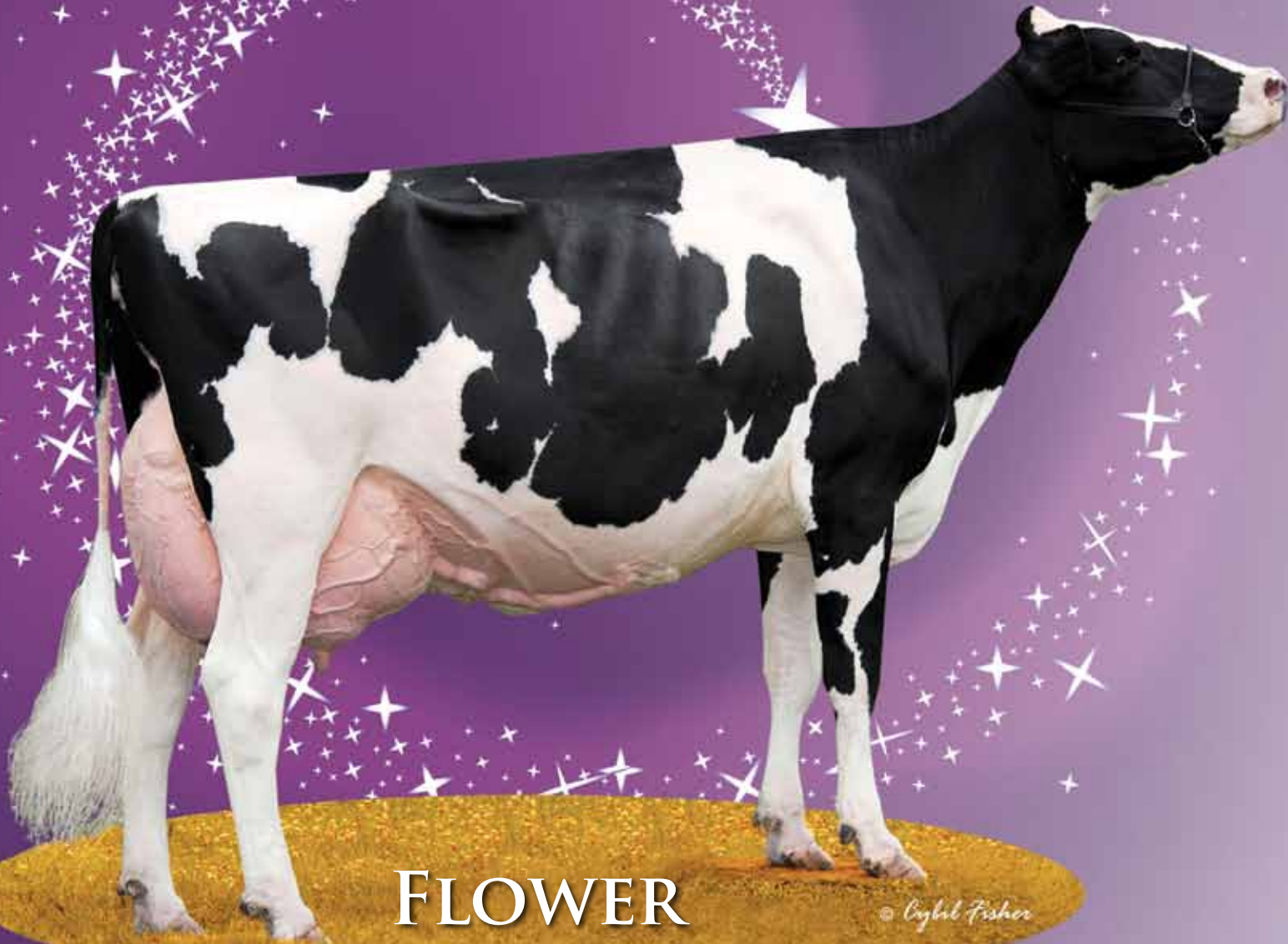


Star of the Breed



FLOWER

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Hazel-Bush Flap Flower EX-92 (EEEE)
4-05 2X 305d 49,810M 4.1%F 2,042F 2.9%P 1,436P
3rd Five-Year Old - 2011 Midwest Spring National Holstein Show
& Mid-East Fall National Holstein Show
Owned by Beth Nelson, Blair, Wis.



★“Flower” Blossoms as 2011 Star of the Breed

To be eligible for the Star of the Breed award, a cow must place in the top five in her class at a National Holstein Show, be in a herd enrolled in the TriStar program and have an official classification score. Once the eligible cows are determined, the following calculation is used to decide the award recipient: Combined ME Fat and Protein + Age Adjusted Classification Score x (Breed Average ME Combined Fat & Protein/Breed Average Age Adjusted Classification Score).

Hazel-Bush Flap Flower has claimed the title of Holstein Association USA’s 2011 Star of the Breed. This award is given annually to one Holstein cow that not only excels in the showing, but is an exceptional milk producer as well. Flower was bred by Hazel Bush Farms, Inc., of Rice Lake, Wis., and is owned by 22-year-old Beth Nelson of Blair, Wis.

Flower was born on July 29, 2006, and is sired by My-John Free Flap-ET, out of Hazel-Bush Delaware Dixie. She made an outstanding record this past year, calving in at 4-05, producing 59,160 pounds of milk with 4.2 percent fat (2,471 pounds) and 2.9 percent protein (1,744 pounds) in 365 days. Nelson attributes the cow’s impressive milk production to her large capacity and “queen-size” appetite. She is currently classified EX-92 EEEEE, scoring a 50 in both rear udder height and width.

Beth purchased Flower as one of her first Registered Holstein project animals at the 2007 Barron County Holstein Sale, as an eight-month-old heifer. She showed her at county, district and state shows as a heifer, but it wasn’t until Flower calved in that she began to catch judges’ eyes in the showing. As a Junior Three-Year-Old, she placed first at the Wisconsin Junior State Fair, and in 2010 was the Reserve Junior All-Wisconsin and Honorable Mention Junior All-American Four-Year-Old. This past year, Flower was the third place Five-Year-Old at both the Midwest Spring National Holstein Show and the Mid-East Fall National Holstein Show.

Nelson has flushed and bred the cow to several high type bulls, but has only been successful in getting two heifers thus far, a pair of November 2010 daughters by Gen-Mark Stmatic Sanchez. Flower is currently bred to Crackholm Fever-ET, due in early June. Beth says their goal for Flower’s upcoming lactation are to try and get some more daughters from her, possibly through in vitro fertilization. If she calves in well, she plans to show her again this summer and fall.

Beth attended the University of Wisconsin Farm and Industry Short Course and now works fulltime with her parents, Lee and Becky, at their dairy farm. They milk 150 cows twice a day in a double-10 parabone parlor, the herd primarily comprised of Holsteins, approximately 20 percent of which are registered. The cattle are housed in sand bedded freestalls, with a pack barn for fresh cows, and their ration consists of a TMR with an ample amount of dry hay. The farm’s rolling herd average currently sits at 24,500 pounds of milk, maintaining a 98,000 SCC, which has earned them several milk quality awards. Beth enjoys exhibiting cattle at shows and regularly attends her district and state shows, along with the Midwest Fall National Holstein Show, World Dairy Expo, and the Mid-East Fall National Holstein Show.