

U.S. Holsteins

The Breed of Choice for America's Dairy Producers



Unmatched Milk and Component Production Ability

The largest source of income on a dairy farm is the milk check, and Registered Holstein cattle are your **number one choice** for what American dairy producers are paid for – producing more pounds of high quality milk, fat, and protein than any other dairy breed. The breed's low somatic cell counts not only help you work toward receiving milk quality premiums, but also translate to fewer udder health problems, reducing milk loss and treatment costs.

COMPARISON BETWEEN HOLSTEINS & OTHER BREEDS ON DHIA TESTING PROGRAMS, 2015							
	# of Herds	Milk Pounds	Fat %	Fat Pounds	Protein %	Protein Pounds	Somatic Cell Score Birth Year=2013
Holsteins	10,381	25,293	3.67	929	3.08	780	2.37
Ayrshires	64	15,304	3.94	603	3.19	488	2.57
Brown Swiss	148	19,125	4.16	795	3.42	654	2.47
Guernseys	80	15,815	4.63	732	3.38	535	2.93
Jerseys	800	18,158	4.81	873	3.65	664	2.84

Source: CDCB, 2015 Averages of DHIA cow herds by breed and test-plan category
 Note: In the Somatic Cell Score column, a lower score is better.

Registered Holsteins Provide More Added Value at Sale Time than Non-Registered Cattle, or Cattle of Other Breeds

A small \$10 investment registering a Holstein calf can pay large dividends at sale time! Owning Registered Holstein cattle gives dairy producers **more opportunity for added value** than producers of non-registered cattle or other breeds, when selling animals for breeding stock. Even when selling bull calves at market, Holsteins get the advantage, earning a higher price per head.

REGISTERED CATTLE SALE AVERAGE VS. CATTLE SOLD AT MARKET	
Registered Holstein Springers	\$3,652
Holstein Springers at Market	\$1,937
Registered Holstein Milk Cows	\$4,626
Holstein Milk Cows at Market	\$1,671
Registered Holsteins (all ages)	\$6,962
Registered Jerseys (all ages)	\$2,078
Holstein Bull Calves at Market	\$137
"Light" Bull Calves at Market	\$90

*Reg. Holstein prices taken from February 2015 Holstein World, report of 2014 public sales; Market prices taken as an average from several livestock markets across the U.S.; Reg. Jersey prices reported in 2014 AJCA Annual Report.

Large, Diverse Gene Pool with the Highest Quality Genetics Available

The Holstein breed has the largest pool of available genetics of any dairy breed in the U.S. For the producer, the high genetic merit and wide selection of Holstein bulls mean the choices are available to breed **exactly the kind of cow you want** without having to consider crossbreeding. Because of this population size, Holsteins have the **lowest average inbreeding** of all of the major U.S. dairy breeds, meaning less economic loss due to reduced performance of inbred animals.

Not only are Holsteins industry leaders for genetic quality, breeders are committed to keeping Holsteins in that position. Holsteins have shown **more genetic progress** since the last base change than other breeds in several key traits.

Average Inbreeding Loss of Cows Born in 2014	
Holsteins – 6.31%	Jerseys – 7.16%
6.31 x \$23.11 = \$145.82 lost	7.16 x \$23.11 = 165.47 lost
\$20 difference x average U.S. herd size of 204 cows means a Jersey herd could expect \$4,080 less profit due to inbreeding losses than a Holstein herd of the same size. In a 5,000-cow herd, the difference would be even more dramatic - a 5,000 cow Jersey herd could expect \$100,000 less profit due to inbreeding losses than a 5,000-cow Holstein herd.	

Source: USDA

Average Inbreeding % for Cows Born in 2014	
Holstein	6.31%
Ayrshire	6.42%
Brown Swiss	6.71%
Guernsey	7.58%
Jersey	7.16%
Milking Shorthorn	5.95%

Source: CDCB, 2014

Genetic Progress – Somatic Cell Score Birth Year 2010 vs. 2005	
Holstein	-0.06*
Ayrshire	-0.01
Brown Swiss	-0.02
Guernsey	+0.01
Jersey	+0.03
Milking Shorthorn	+0.02

Source: CDCB 2014

* most improved

Genetic Progress – Predicted Transmitting Ability Milk Birth Year 2010 vs. 2005	
Holstein	+382
Ayrshire	+222
Brown Swiss	+157
Guernsey	+ 66
Jersey	+327
Milking Shorthorn	+214

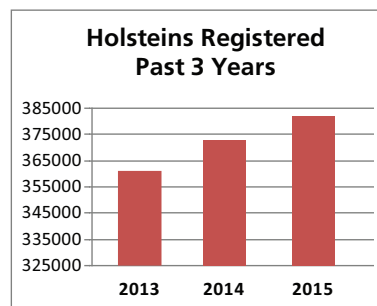
Source: CDCB, 2014

Genetic Progress – Daughter Pregnancy Rate Birth Year 2010 vs. 2005	
Holstein	+ 0.21%
Ayrshire	- 0.08%
Brown Swiss	+ 0%
Guernsey	- 0.21%
Jersey	- 0.03%
Milking Shorthorn	- 0.30%

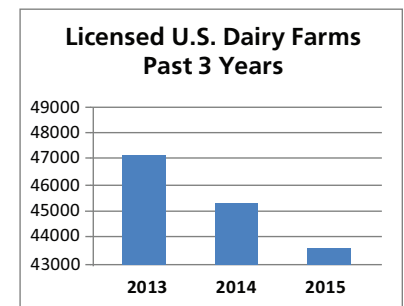
Source: CDCB, 2014

Still the Number One Choice After All These Years – With Market Share Continuing to Grow!

In an ever-shrinking dairy industry, Holstein Association USA continues to grow the number of Holsteins being registered each year, showing that dairy producers are finding **added value in officially identifying their cattle.**



Source: USDA and Holstein Association USA



One Breed, So Many Markets

Looking for a niche market to add even more value to your herd? You'll find it here.

- High Milk Production
- Holstein Cheese
- Polled Genetics
- Red & White Holsteins
- Showring Appeal
- High Genetic Merit
- Outcross Genetics
- Holstein Beef
- Hardy Calves

The Choice is Yours. It is possible to "have it all" in one package – cows that possess the dairyness, strength, soundness of feet and legs, and quality udders that can be admired by any dairyman, with the will to milk and performance needed to provide maximum profit for you.

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