

RED IS THE COLOUR AT THE LEEDHAM DISPERSAL

The dispersal of Rob & Susan Kirk's Leedham herd was probably one of the most important sales of Red & White Holsteins to take place in recent times and drew buyers, both in person and on Marteye, from as far afield as Aberdeenshire, Ayrshire, Cumbria and Somerset, as well as from South Wales and Northern Ireland.

The feature of the sale were the two calves from the O Kalibra family, which is becoming one of the most prestigious families in the breed. Leedham Amaretto OK Red ET had been Reserve Champion at the recent East Midlands calf show and drew spirited bidding with the hammer falling at 6,600gs to Ben and Nia Llewelin to join their Clarby herd in Pembrokeshire. Sonny Warren was thwarted for this heifer but secured her full sister for 5,200gs for the Hennikers herd.

Blaise Tomlinson, who runs several Holsteins alongside his well known prizewinning Sandyford herd of Ayrshires, purchased another fancy show calf in Leedham Attico Julie Red for 4,500gs and also took Leedham Awesome Seisme Red, who had been Champion Heifer in the Herd Competition for 3,300gs and also bought her eight month old Avance calf for 2,700gs.

Rhys Griffiths, Pembrokeshire, who has been a good online bidder at several recent sales gave 3,100gs for an in calf heifer from the Jodie family, while another good supporter, Jason Booth from Co Tyrone, who purchased the recent Wyevalley sale topper, this time bidding on Marteye, bought a VG 2year old from the Playmate family for 2,750gs.

Trade for cattle has definitely eased in recent weeks, but the satisfactory average of over £1,500 per head, including some recently born calves, was a highly satisfactory conclusion to Rob's pedigree breeding career and we wish him well for the future.

TOP PRICES

65	Leedham Amaretto OK Red ET	B & N.Llewelin (Clarby)	6,600
66	Leedham Amaretto Kalibra Red ET	S.Warren (Hennikers)	5,200
63	Leedham Attico Julie Red	Blaise Tomlinson (Charnwood)	4,500
104	Leedham Awesome Seisme Red (VG-86 2yr)	Blaise Tomlinson (Charnwood)	3,300
60	Leedham Undenied Jodie	G.R.Griffiths & Son (Carwyn)	3,100
80	Leedham Awesome Playmate Red (VG-85 2yr)	G & J.Booth (Beechview)	2,750
104A	Leedham Avance Seisme Red	Blaise Tomlinson (Charnwood)	2,700
105	Leedham Dice Seisme Red 3	T.Winder (Newera)	2,500
73	Leedham Awesome Melody (GP-83 2yr)	P.J.Waring (Winton)	2,450
37	Aliann Doorman Elegant 2 (VG-86)	A.D & R.M.Thomas (Wolston)	2,350

AVERAGES

64 cows & calved heifers	£ 1,743.16
26 served heifers	£ 1,449.68
18 maiden heifers	£ 1,219.17
31 calves	£ 1,449.68
139 head	£ 1504.51

AUCTIONEERS: NORTON & BROOKSBANK