

A smile from the Abbott as 6,500 guinea Pledge tops Davlea Sale

A modest crowd but feverish bidding on line secured an excellent result at Exeter on Monday when Max Davies & Family sold a superb offering from their fine Davlea herd, supported by Richard Gay of Walkabout and Matt House of Chedhunt. The imminent lockdown and travel restrictions due to covid-19 meant several Welsh, Irish & Scottish buyers took advantage of on-line bidding via MartEye to see half the animals sold to internet bidders. Almost 3,000 people watched the sale on line.

Top price of 6,500 guineas went to Davlea Abbott Pledge VG86-2yr, an exceptional fresh heifer by Willsbro Abbott, who is descended from the noted Ada family that provided top price at the recent sale for Wills Brothers. The Pledge family is another international family of great repute and Martin O'Sullivan of Desmond Farms in Co. Limerick was in no mood to be second best on this special animal. Later in the sale Davlea Octane Pledge 3 ET, a yearling sister to the successful show cow Davlea Braxton Pledge EX91, made second top price of 5,000 gns, staying in the county to Messrs J.S Bird & Son from Shute where they farm their Bartonwood Herd.

Investment in these best Holstein families seldom fails to pay off and Gareth Thomas of Gelliddu near Carmarthen snapped up Davlea Control Shadow for 3200 gns. She is bred from 12 generations of EX/VG cows and has two VG87-2yr old sisters at home. Shadow is due to calve in January. Another superbly bred calf from a family seldom seen in our sales in UK made 3,200gns at just 6 months of age to Martin O'Sullivan. Davlea Sidekick Little is bred from 4 generations of Excellent cows and is closely related to the 2018 Madison Grand Champion Jacobs Lauthority Loana EX97.

The Walkabout consignment topped at 1,750 gns twice and Matt House's 6 month old Solomon calf made 2,300gns

With an average of £1,753 per life for the Davlea lots, this last sale before 'Lockdown' ended a highly successful sales campaign for 2020 on a high. The quality of the cattle has been on many occasions exceptional and no doubt there are many happy buyers who have supported the sales. A big thank you to everyone.

Averages:	48 Cows & Calved Heifers	avg. £2,113
	33 Served Heifers (some pd+)	avg. £1,928
	14 Bulling Heifers	avg. £1,207
	25 Calves	avg. £1,420
	1 Bull	£1,420
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	121 Davlea animals	avg. £1,753

TOP PRICES

Lot	Animal	Buyer	Gns
37	D. Abbott Pledge (VG-86 2yr)	Desmond Farms Ltd (Desmond)	6,500
88	D. Octane Pledge 3 ET	J.S.Bird & Son (Bartonwood)	5,000
67	D. Control Shadow	D,J,B,Thomas & Son (Gelliddu)	3,200
115	D. Sidekick Little	Desmond Farms Ltd (Desmond)	3,200
36	D. Unix Impala (VG-86 2yr)	G.R.Griffiths & Son (Carwyn)	3,000
127	D. Doorman Raven 5	A.Porter (Drumport)	3,000
84	D. Doorman Esher 5 ET	A.Porter (Drumport)	2,900
15	D, Applicable Erle (VG-87 2yr)	E.C.Corbett	2,800
101	D, Crushtime Raven	J.S.Bird & Son (Bartonwood)	2,800
87	D. Impression Ashlyn	G & J.Booth (Beechview)	2,600
77	D. Victor Ashlyn	Baltier Farming Co (Baltier)	2,500

**Auctioneers: NORTON & BROOKSBANK
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