

LAMBDA DAUGHTERS MAKE THE HEADLINES AT WILLSBRO SALE

Wills Bros Ltd's, Willsbro herd is universally recognised as one of the finest dairy units in the country. With a remarkable herd average of more than 13,700kg at 4.16% fat for over 1,400 cows on their impressive farm near Wadebridge, Cornwall. Allied to these impressive figures is a depth of pedigree found in very few of this country's herds. These credentials drew many interested breeders to Exeter Livestock Centre from as far as afield as Lancashire, Cheshire, South Wales and Wiltshire, together with a good local following of Devonians for the latest edition of Willsbro Sales, with several more bidding on Marteye.

23 calved heifers and over 100 heifer calves, aged between 3 and 10 months old were offered and the top price in both sections was paid for daughters of the highly regarded Farnear Delta-Lambda. The first animal in the ring, an outstanding Lambda daughter from the Amber family, yielding 53kg daily and out of a recently scored 93 point cow, proved to be the day's top price, being knocked down for 5,600gs to Steve Pinniger for his Pinnupp herd, near Calne, Wiltshire. He also purchased an Ashlyn for 4,200gs and a Roxy for 3,400gs. Local breeders Messrs Bartlett from Gittisham, Honiton gave 4,000gs for an 86 point heifer by Claynook Miami from the Ashlyn family, and Harry Roper made the long journey from Lancashire, and purchased a Westcoast Lighthouse daughter from the high yielding Pammy family for 3,800gs.

Another daughter of Lambda topped the calves with James McNeil of Cairnpat Holsteins bidding 3,900gs on the telephone to secure a Roxy, bred from 11 generations of Excellent cows. A.R. Mitchell from St Kew, Bodmin gave 3,600gs for a Soundsystem Pammy, and John O'Connor, from the Bawnmore herd at Kanturk, Co Cork, bidding on Marteye, bought a Stantons Chief daughter from the famous prizewinning Kingsway "A" family for 3,200gs. Another from the same family, by Siemers Oct Apple Crisp, also heads to Ireland, this time to the North, having been bought for 2,800gs by Sam Wadsworth for his Glenwood herd at Lisburn.

The biggest volume buyers were Stowell Farms from Marlborough, Wiltshire who are expanding their Goldenball herd, and bought more than half the heifer calves, at prices up to 2,200gs three times.

The sale cattle were all turned out in exemplary condition and another successful Willsbro Sale demonstrated the appeal of superior pedigrees to today's dairy farmers.

TOP PRICES			
Cows & Calved Heifers			
1	W. Lambda Amber 201 ET (VG-86 2yr)	Pinniger & Sons (Pinnupp)	5,600
15	W. Score Ashlyn 220 (VG-86 2yr)	Pinniger & Sons (Pinnupp)	4,200
12	W. Miami Ashlyn 219 ET (VG-86 2yr)	L.F & A.J & J.L. Bartlett (Hayne)	4,000
24	W. Lighthouse Pammy 374 (VG-85 2yr)	E. Roper & Sons	3,800
16	W. Totem Pledge 121 (VG-85 2yr)	R.A & S.A Reed (Allerways)	3,800
17	W. Sidekick Roxy 346 (VG-85 2yr)	M & R. Dunn (Rosewood)	3,600
26	W. Jones Ashlyn 236 (VG-85 2yr)	Buddleford Partnership	3,500
6	W. Dateline Roxy 338 (VG-85 2yr)	Pinniger & Sons (Pinnupp)	3,400
23	W. Flowrider Sara 192 (VG-85 2yr)	David Rees Farms (Dalebank)	3,200
13	W. Flowrider Lila Z 436 ((GP-84 2yr)	A.D. Freeston	3,000
25	W. Lighthouse Lila Z 449 ((GP-83 2yr)	M. Whitehurst	3,000
2	W. Scenic Lila Z 407 ((VG-85 2yr)	M & R. Dunn (Rosewood)	2,900

8	W, Flowrider Rozelle 96 (GP-83 2yr)	Buddleford Partnership	2,900
11	W. Fortune Amber 255 (VG-85 2yr)	M & R.Dunn (Rosewood)	2,900
Heifer Calves			
86	W. Lambda Roxy 3100 ET	Cairnpat Holsteins (Cairnpat)	3,900
65	W. Soundsystem Pammy 2952 ET	AR.Mitchell (Laram)	3,600
149	W, Chief Abudhabi 3391	J.O'Connor (Bawnmore)	3,200
79	W. Crisp Arangatang 3046	S.Wadsworth (Glenwood)	2,800
84	W. Impact Foxie 3095	David Rees Farms (Dalebank)	2,700
141	W. Addison Amber 3339	A.D.Thomas (Wolston)	2,700
73	W. Excalibur Roxy 3002	E.Roper & Sons	2,700
148	W.Hanans Roxy 3389	J.O'Connor (Bawnmore)	2,600
57	W. Excalibur Roxy 2938 ET	A.Airey (Loudside)	2,500
103	W. Legend Amber 3127 ET	P.A.Orr (Lessize)	2,500
56	W. Excalibur Sara 2933	D.M & G.Davies (Tegan)	2,400
42	W. Rubels Rachel Red 2863 ET	Buddleford Partnership	2,200
62	W, Soundsystem Sara 2939	Stowell Farms (Goldenball)	2,200
77	W. Lambda Rachel 3043	Stowell Farms (Goldenball)	2,200
96	W. Royal Highlight 3124	Stowell Farms (Goldenball)	2,200
118	W. Reformer Rae 3260	E.Roper & Sons	2,200

AVERAGES

23 calved heifers	£3,337-17
106 heifer calves	£1,552-50
8 bull calves	£ 695-63

AUCTIONEERS: NORTON & BROOKSBANK & KIVELLS