

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Jersey Cattle Association
6486 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-2362
www.usjersey.com

Contact: Cherie L. Bayer, Ph. D.
Director of Development
614/861-3636 Ext. 334

WICKSTROM JERSEY FARMS OF CALIFORNIA DONATES TOP-QUALITY JERSEY HEIFER FOR NATIONAL HEIFER SALE

Reynoldsburg, Ohio (May 27, 2005)—A Registered Jersey™ heifer from Wickstrom Jersey Farms, Hilmar, Calif., will sell for the benefit of national Jersey youth development programs and the AJCC Research Foundation at the 48th National Heifer Sale on June 25.

The Leadership Gift made by Duane, Scott and Michael Wickstrom is Dupat Mor 1824, a bred heifer sired by 1JE480 Wilsonview Morgan-ET, JPI +151.

For the first time in National Heifer Sale history, every animal that sells has been donated. A record number of 97 heifers, two choice of flushes, and three embryo packages will sell on June 25 at the fairgrounds in Washington, Penna. The donor list includes 100 Jersey breeders, partnerships or operations from 28 states and also the state Jersey associations of Kentucky and Utah.

Ten percent (10%) of the proceeds will go to the national Jersey youth fund (to a cap of \$25,000). The balance will be added to the endowment of the AJCC Research Foundation, a 501(c)(3) trust sponsoring scientific research in high-priority areas related to Jersey cattle and Jersey milk.

The donation heifer from Wickstrom Jersey Farms is due in January to Prairie Harbour Bjour-ET. She is out of Dupat Lester 7019, VG-88%, with four records over 22,000 lbs. milk and a top record of 4-10 305 29,150 4.0% 1,166 3.3% 933 99DCR. The next dam is Very good with over 21,000 lbs. of milk.

“The goal is to raise \$25,000 for Jersey youth work and \$250,000—or more—for Jersey research on June 25,” explained Craig Rhein of Pine Grove, Penna., a Director of the American Jersey Cattle Association and chair of the 48th National Heifer Sale. “We definitely have a great set of heifers that can accomplish that goal.

“There are 58 heifers ranking in the top 10% in the U.S. for Parent Average Jersey Performance Index™,” he continued. “Dams of the 102 lots being cataloged average 86.3% for final score and 19,925 lbs. milk, 898 lbs. fat and 699 lbs. protein on their best 305-day actual production records.

The most recent 10-year average for the National Heifer Sale is \$3,006.12 on 564 heifers. In all, 2,173 heifers have been sold for an average price of \$1,925.95 since the first sale in 1957.

Dairy industry partners are providing generous support for this once-in-a-lifetime event. The Featured Sponsor of the 48th National Heifer Sale is Igenity™ from Merial. Fort Dodge Animal Health is the Supporting Sponsor. Post Printing Company of Minster, Ohio, is the Official Printer of the 48th National Heifer Sale catalog.

Event Sponsors include the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Association; Cargill Inc.; Alta Genetics and Jerseyland Sires; the Beef Checkoff Program and the Pennsylvania and New York Beef Councils; and T. C. Jacoby & Company, St. Louis, Mo. Event support is being provided by Bostelman Livestock Transportation, Bainbridge, N.Y.; Cabot Creamery Cooperative, Montpelier, Vt.; Nasco, Ft. Atkinson, Wis.; and Trans World Services; plus by Bradley Taylor, Booneville, Miss.; David and Patricia Endres, Lodi, Wis.; and Paul and Dawn Schirm, West Salem, Ohio. *Farmshine*, Brownstown, Penna., and *Farm and Dairy*, Salem, Ohio, are providing promotional support for the sale.

Donating their services as auctioneers are Larry Benson, New Lebanon, N.Y.; Jack Holbrook, Murfreesboro, Tenn.; Larry Kempton, Franklin, Vt.; Lynn Lee, Smyrna, Tenn.; and David Wedertz, Kenton, Ohio.

The American Jersey Cattle Association will transfer the registration certificates of all lots selling at no charge. Jersey Marketing Service, Reynoldsburg, Ohio, is the sale manager. The sale catalog will be available on the USJersey web site (www.usjersey.com) on June 1. Catalogs may be requested by calling (614) 755-5857, ext. 325, before June 15.

About the AJCC Research Foundation

A 501(c)(3) permanent trust created in 1967, the AJCC Research Foundation has provided seed money for well-designed scientific investigations related to high-priority areas affecting the Jersey breed of dairy cattle:

- Nutrition of high-producing Jerseys (particularly practical feeding methods to maximize production of valuable milk components);
- Factors affecting yield of products manufactured from Jersey milk;
- Factors affecting net income, longevity, and lifetime profit;
- Breeding plans to optimize genetic gain while maintaining genetic diversity;
- Biological and economic efficiencies of Jerseys; and
- Factors affecting management of Jersey calves.

For more information about the AJCC Research Foundation or the American Jersey Cattle Association's youth development programs, contact Dr. Cherie L. Bayer, Director of Development, at 614/861-3636, or visit the USJersey web site at www.USJersey.com or the Foundation web site at <http://jerseyresearch.usjersey.com>.

###