



A Successful Year for the Jersey Breed

“Strength and growth come only through continuous effort and struggle.” *Napoleon Hill, author*

As the clock struck midnight at the end of 2022, the USJersey organizations completed their 154th year of business—a feat not achieved by many organizations in this era. And as time continues to march on, the year was no different than the past few with new challenges and advancements for the industry.

The Jersey breed is fortunate to have had strong leadership in the past and present times. They have embraced change through the years allowing the USJersey organizations to show sustained growth in a constantly fluctuating industry.

Organized in 1868, the American Jersey Cattle Association was established with the mission to improve and promote the Jersey breed and provide programs and services that will enhance the profitability of Jersey dairy herds. This statement is what leadership and staff still follow today in the quest to make owning Jerseys the most profitable breed of dairy cattle.

The dairy industry continues to be a rapidly changing environment, one that has fewer producers, larger herds and new technologies released daily. It has become more and more taxing for businesses and herds to remain relevant, efficient and profitable in this business.

In spite of these challenges, Jersey has remained the breed that shows growth year-after-year, based on the fact she is the most resourceful cow in the industry. Jerseys are more reproductively efficient, leave a smaller carbon footprint, and produce a higher quality product that meets the needs of today’s dairy processors.

Even when current market signals indicate a tough economic future for U.S. dairy producers, Jerseys do have the answers.

1,005 lbs. ... the record high fat lbs. per lactation achieved in 2022 by the Jersey breed. A new record amount for production. The breed also gained 28 lbs. per lactation for Cheese Yield to 2,602 lbs.

122,092 ... the number of animals recorded in the American Jersey Cattle Association’s database during 2022. The sixth largest total recorded in the organization’s history. That is a 15.3% increase in the past decade (103,345 recorded in 2012). This marked the 11th consecutive year the organization has recorded more than 100,000 registrations.

4,559 ... the number of different owners that are represented in the registration count. As the breed continues to grow, we consider the number of customers an indicator of breed growth.

167,826 ... the number of cows in 1,097 herds enrolled on performance programs receiving production and type appraisal services through the American Jersey Cattle Association. This is an increase of 5.6% from just one year ago, making the year second best in history.

165 ... the average number of cows in the 1,001 REAP herds at the end of 2022. This number continues to increase every year.

116,576 ... the number of animals appraised through the AJCA Type Traits Appraisal program. 2022 became the 10th consecutive year for the appraisal team to evaluate more than 100,000 individuals.

42,572 ... identified Jerseys females genotyped in 2022. Since January 2009, 615,497 Jersey females have received genomic evaluations from the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding.

\$586,000 ... estimated revenue generated for the Equity program to promote the increased demand for and value of Jersey milk and milk products from 995 contributors.

\$5,886,680 ... the gross total of sales for Jersey Marketing Service (JMS) in 2022. This showed 30% growth over 2021. Private treaty sales drove the business of Jersey Marketing Service with 60.7% of the sales handled behind the scenes.

The marketing arm of USJersey also raised the bar at the All American Jersey Sale as JX FB Sugar DaddyAll American {6} topped the sale at \$75,000—the new all-time high for a female in the annual sale. As well in the online genomic sales held in 2022—TLJ Sugardaddy L Beauty 2786—set a new record for JMS online sales for \$70,250 in the Welcome to 2022 Genomics Sale.

The numbers tell us that Jerseys are a better fit for today’s dairy economy than any other breed. She is the cow for today and tomorrow.

As we enter a new year, the USJersey organizations envision a bright future for our breed. We will continue working to identify and capitalize on new opportunities that will strengthen the economic position of “The Jersey” in today’s dairy industry.



THE JERSEY by Bonnie L. Mohr, commissioned by the American Jersey Cattle Association.
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