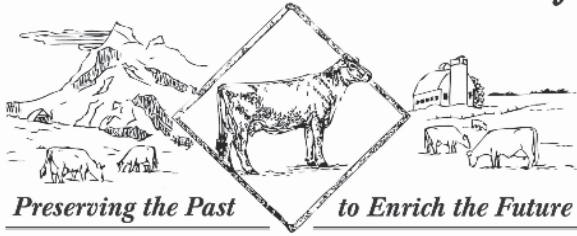


Brown Swiss Historical Society



Visiting the Past ...

Total Performance Award History

During the next few months, we will be reviewing the history of several of the association annual awards. We will start with the Total Performance Award, which began in 1969. The January Bulletin for many years has highlighted this award.

1969-Meadow View Trophy-Special Production Class

At the 1969 National Show, a new class was initiated called the "Special Production Class," and the trophy was sponsored by Meadow View Farm. It was a lead-out class, and animals qualified by standing in the top 50% of their respective classes. The award went to the cow with the top DHIR 305-day 2x ME Fat record.

The initial winner was Welcome In Charming Sybil 378423 owned by Green Knoll Farm, Inc., Long Grove, Iowa. The following three years, the award belonged to L-J Stretchy Rocker 488102, owned by Ron Cunningham, Marysville, Ohio.

1973-Meadow View Trophy-Total Performance Class

Changes were made during the March 1973 Board Meeting, and the name switched to the "Total Performance Class." Now to qualify for this award, a cow must:

1. Have at least one 305-day 2x actual record over 18,000 pounds milk or 725 pounds fat.
2. Be showing as a 5 Year Old or Aged Cow in Milking or Dry Cow class.
3. Have 3 complete DHI lactations by July 1.
4. Have calved in the past year or be diagnosed pregnant.
5. Place in the top 50% of her class.

The award is calculated on a point system with a weight of 50% to class placing, 25% to the high 305-day fat-corrected-milk record, and 25% to average production of 4% FCM per day over two years of age. A cow's credits are totaled through July 1. In 1983, the minimum production levels were raised to 20,000 pounds milk or 800 pounds fat.

At each National Show, a shawl is presented to the winning cow, and she leads the Parade of Champions. At the next National Convention, the overall winner receives the Meadow View Farm trophy, a silver pitcher, sponsored by Bernard Monson, Gowrie, Iowa.

The initial winner of this award in 1973 was Arbor Rose Punch Maxine 499708, owned by Punch Maxine Syndicate, Glendale, Arizona. Maxine went on to win in 1975 and 1976 to become another 3-time winner.

1988-National Total Performance Award

Beginning in 1988, the award, now sponsored by the National Association, is renamed the Total Performance Award. Requirement 4 is revised to: Be diagnosed pregnant if the last calving date *or embryo collection* is more than 12 months prior to show date. Requirement 5 is revised to: Place in the top 50% of her class *or in the top 5 if less than 10 in the class*. The owner of the cow winning the National Total Performance award is presented a silver pitcher.

During the 80's, another cow became a 3-time winner as High Spruce Stretchy Eve 709386 won for three consecutive years, 1986-1988, owned by R-Hart Farm, Wapakoneta, Ohio, and Warren Schroer, New Knoxville, Ohio. However, after skipping a year, she won again in 1990 to become the only 4-time winner.

Beginning with the 1991 award, all production records are converted to an *Energy Corrected Milk (ECM) basis, which includes protein as well as fat*. Previously, all records were adjusted to a 4% Fat-Corrected-Milk (FCM) basis. A production level of 700 pounds protein was added as an option for the lactation requirement.

During the 1995 Central National Show at World Dairy Expo, Heins Herzog, Secretary of the Switzerland Association, presented President Vanderham a beautiful decorative Swiss bell to serve as recognition for the National Total Performance Award winner each year. The first presentation of the traveling bell went to Top Acres Dotson Paisley 796194, owned by Wayne Sliker, St. Paris, Ohio, in addition to the silver pitcher.

The 1990's literally were owned by Wayne Sliker. He captured the Total Performance Award 8 straight years from 1991-1998, one in partnership with Kenny Joe Manion in 1997. He also won with Kenny in 2000 and had previously won 3 times in the 1980's, totaling 12 wins by 2000. He added one more win in 2014 in partnership with Christopher Durbin.

For the 2006 show season, a Component Merit Cow class was added and included in Requirement 2. During the next 17 years, 11 of the winners have come from this class.

Vernon C. Hull Total Performance

Beginning in 2014 and through 2022, the Total Performance award was sponsored by Velve and the late Bill Notter of Holyoke, Colorado, in honor of Vernon C. Hull.

Record Breakers

Another 3-time winner was Jonlee Secret Langwathby owned by the Freemans of Bremen, Indiana, winning in 2015 to 2017. Additionally, she broke the 300 total-points level for the first time and then topped it the next two years, reaching a high score of 361. This year, 2022, saw Cutting Edge Stratus Sue, owned by Ron Kelm, Markesan, Wisconsin, break the previous record with 363 total points.

Total Performance History List

A complete list of all Total Performance winners and owners since 1969 are available on the Association's website under: Breed, History, Total Performance. The website also contains the current rules. Several winning cows are pictured, as well as the traveling bell.