



Auzred Xb Sept 2011 update;

Coopex Montbeliardes dominating in production.

Auzred Xb is collating the herd test data from 4 herds to closely monitor how the Monty and Red sires being used in crossbreeding are performing. With another round of herd test data in, the Monty crosses are clearly outperforming their Red cross herd mates in the production stakes.

Looking purely at PI (production index), the tool which most dairy farmers use as a guide as to how individual cows are performing within their herds, we find that the Monty x daughters have an increase in average PI since the last herd test, the Aussie Red sired daughters held their ground and the Scandinavian sired daughters dropped down further.

Coopex Montbeliarde sires		Aussie Red		Scandinavian sires	
Sire / Average PI		Sire / Average PI		Sire / Average PI	
Paganini	108	ARBBonjovi	105	Peterslund	100
Redon	105.5	ARBThatch	103	Orraryd	100
Papayou	105.4	ARBBobdown	102	Sadam	98
Solstice	104	ARBLex	101	Andersta	96
Rusty	100	ARBLippman	101	Klens	94
				Obrolin	93

Paganini 108; continues to impress, his average PI of his daughters has increased from 105 to 108 with his best 1st lac daughters producing over 30 litres at 3.7% protein with 4 kg bail feed, his daughters are averaging 3.57% protein. His daughters have fantastic udders and are extremely quiet. Combined with being A2A2 and BB kappa casein he is a very attractive sire. I still have concerns with using him over Holstein cows due to him producing some large bull calves when used in this situation.

Redon 105.5; with the most daughters within the 4 farms, (93), keeps improving, his daughters increased from an average 102 PI to 105.5, there is the odd slow milker among his daughters, but nothing that any of the farmers are concerned about. Of the Monty sires I have used, Redon is the only one that has produced a couple of slow milkers in my herd. The first lactation heifers have come in better than last year's group with them having no real issues with settling into the dairy. The few that took a bit longer to settle as heifers last year have all come in this year on their second lactation with no issues.

Papayou 105.4; continues to impress, his daughters improved from 104 PI to 105.4, His 3rd lactation daughters look like being around for many years. His daughters are proof of the difference between the Montbeliarde and other breeds with regards to udders, the Monty is slower maturing and the udders do not blow off in 2nd and 3rd lactation like some breeds do.

Solstice 104 has lived up to the expectations I had of him after seeing his dam and daughters in France, a true pasture based specialist with heaps of production when crossed over HF and HF cross cows. Being too quiet is the comments I get about his daughters. The best of his 1st lactation daughters also are producing over 30 litres.

ARBJonjovi 105; With daughters now milking in 3rd lactation he is clearly the best Red sire available for over HF cows, great udders, workability's and components. I am very impressed with his crossbred daughters and will be aiming at using him heavily in autumn.

ARBThatch 103; A Tmoberg son and half brother of ARBLippman, his daughters have great type and udders, but they tend to strip off weight and take a fair bit to put it back on, for the commercial producer, probably not the ideal but should work ok over HF x Jersey cows.

ARBBobdown 102; Still one of the best Red sires to use in any crossbreeding situation, quiet, heaps of Protein kgs at +0.34% prt. His original daughters are now into 4th lactation and performing well.

ARBLex 101; I still rate Lex as the best all-round Red sire to use in any crossbreeding situation, great production, and udders. When looking at his HF x daughters, he adds chest width and strength.

ARBLippman 101; A Tmoberg son with no Orraryd or Botans in his pedigree and his proof continuing to increase, he has become a popular sire this spring. Unfortunately he is now sold out and I have put in a request to Genetics Australia to bring him back from lay off and start collecting him for autumn. His daughters are strong powerful type cows that hold body condition well and just get the job done. He is currently on special at @\$18. If anyone is interested in using him in autumn, please let me know asap so we can speed up the collection process! For crossbreeding he is a better choice than his half brother ARBThatch.

I will be taking pics of some of his daughters over the next few weeks including a 2nd calver that we hope to get a bull from for PT. This heifer produced 8076 lts at 4.0% protein in 305 days. No bad!!

Peterlund 100; was clearly best suited to using over HF x J cows and the resultant daughters have justified using him predominantly in this spot when crossbreeding. When used over HF cows, particularly over tall sharp HF cows, they tend to be tall thin and shallow bodied (a bit race horse looking) and strip off to much weight. He is still one of the best sires for over HF x J cows.

Orraryd 100; His oldest daughters are now into 4th lactation and performing well with really good udders. There is some concern with him having 18.75% Brown Swiss content. In herds that have not used Brown Swiss, then it was not deemed a problem. The main concern was always HF content within Red sires, as we were mainly crossing over HF cows.

However, for the producer that has previously used Brown Swiss, then he is not an ideal choice.

Sadam 98; reports in are that they are a bit smaller than average and lack that bit of production, udders are reasonable but reports of inconsistency. Time will tell when they move into second lactation.

Andersta 96; Down from an average PI of 98. He is the sire with the most dissatisfaction among the sires used. He is well down in production on what his original interbull proofs predicted, reports also of temperament being an issue with some of his daughters. His daughters that I have seen did not impress with them being narrow, angular and shallow bodied, udders are also inconsistent.

Klens 94; His daughter's oldest daughters are now into 3rd lactation, they consistently have great udders. His 3rd lactation daughters have matured out nicely which would indicate that his daughters are a bit slower at maturing but will last.

Obrolin 93; Down from an average PI of 95, he has the second highest number of daughters (46) on the 4 farms. His daughters on the whole are very small and are milking well for their size. They struggle to hold body condition which would indicate that they are working hard for their size. His daughters now milking in 2nd lactation are showing no real problems with regard to centre ligament, considering his low ligament rating of 64.

Cheers

Steve & Karen

"Leading the way in Crossbreeding"

Steve 0417 138 508

Karen 02 6072 0480

