

New Lifetime producer in Denmark – 182.000 kg Milk

Recently Danish Holstein celebrated a milk leader, who, by the end of January 2015, had set a new record of 181.912 kg of milk. She exceeded the former title owner with 74 kg. Two other candidates were participants in a very close race.

Landborup Funkis 1164 broke the record and is now the cow with the highest lifetime record in Denmark. This T Funkis daughter has calved 10 times, giving twins twice, and remarkably made her ever highest daily milk production during those two lactations. Through all lactations the cow produces with a very flat lactation curve and her average production over 12,5 years is 14.599 kg milk, 4,28 % fat, and 3,29 % protein, giving a total of 1.105 kg of fat and protein based on 365 days annually. Furthermore the cow is now expected to be pregnant. The owner Lisbeth Klinge, Landborup Holstein, is happy to set a new record, which she can add to the fact that her 75 cows last year brought the herd to the highest average production in Denmark, and this year the second highest production. She owns a Ränneslöv daughter who had the highest production in 2014 in Denmark and over the last 10 years Lisbeth Klinge, as a fantastic owner and manager at Landborup Holstein, had 17 cows producing over 100 tons of milk. She does an incredible job, and remarkably “only” milks twice a day. She really is a master and a role model in managing cows.

With a difference of less than 3.000 kg of milk production, 2 additional cows are chasing this new record, - an Ertebølle-daughter (GS: Marc-O-Polo) from Per Warming, and another T Funkis from Breeuwsma I/S. This second T Funkis will calve by the end of March so maybe she can increase her speed and set the next record. It would be fantastic to have two or three cows continuing the race. Since 2009 the record of 181.838 kg of milk was in the hands of Søren Bojer, Jelstrup. His East Cash daughter 934 held the record for 6 years but she died in 2011, so she could not defend her position any more.

The Bell-son NJY Hubert has, over several years, made 181 cows who are producing more than 100 tons, and 5 cows over 150 tons of milk. The Leadman son T Funkis has broken this record with 221 cows with 100 tons, 6 cows with more than 150 tons of milk, and two remarkable ones already passing 175 tons, both still going for more. The breeding philosophy over the last 2-3 decades has been aiming more and more towards cows with high production, and the breeding goal has got more and more potentials for fertility, health – latest better hoof health – and longevity, together with especially better feet and legs as well as mammary. The Landborup Holstein is a very good example of how this breeding philosophy can bring Holstein to the top since they have mainly used national or Scandinavian sires in the herd through the breeding program of VikingGenetics.

Keld Christensen

Secretary, Danish Holstein Association