



Holsteins in Wisconsin. Bulletin no. 4

November 1920

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[s.l.]: [s.n.], November 1920

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The Banker-Farmer WISCONSIN News Bulletin

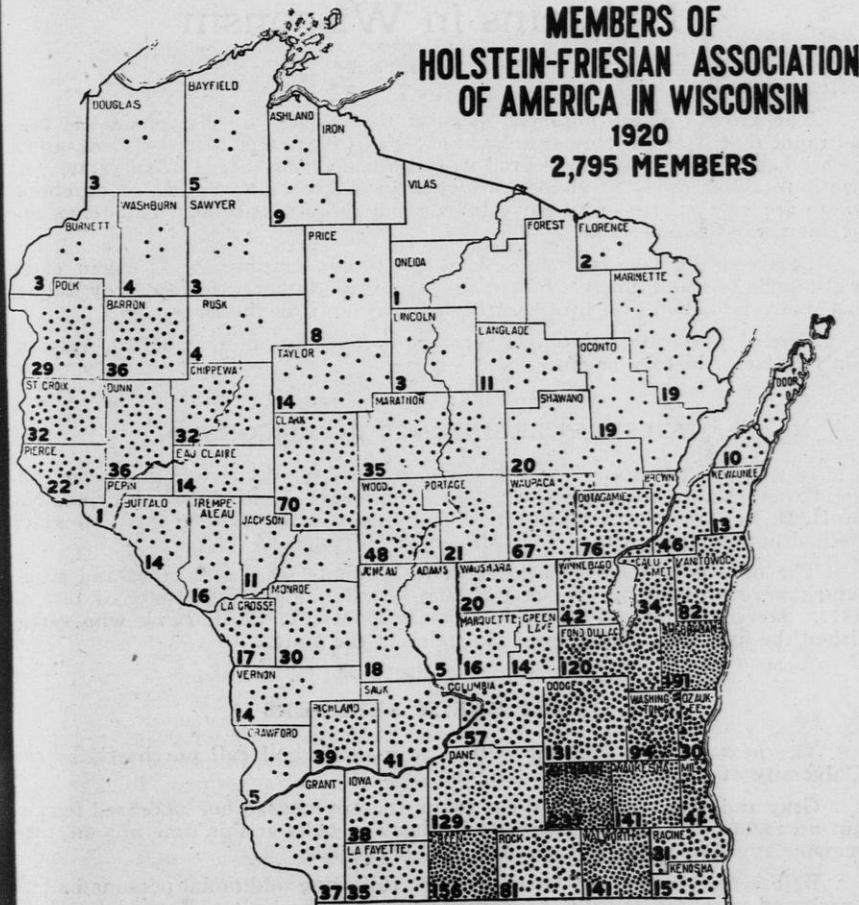
**WISCONSIN
BANKERS'
ASSOCIATION**

A Little Journal of Agricultural Information for the Farmer

**BANKER-
FARMER
EXCHANGE**

BULLETIN No. 4

NOVEMBER, 1920



Compliments of

Facts in BLACK & WHITE

Holsteins in Wisconsin

By D. S. Bullock*

The growth of the purebred dairy cattle industry of Wisconsin has been so rapid that it seems almost incredible. Fifty years ago there was not, as far as we can learn, a single purebred dairy animal of any breed in the state. As we look about today in almost any county and see the number of purebreds there are everywhere of all dairy breeds, but more particularly Holsteins, this seems almost unbelievable.

Early in the last century several small importations of Holstein cattle were made to this country. For one reason and another, however, they did not become established as a breed in this country until in the sixties.

Twelve years after this first permanent importation to America, Wisconsin's Holstein history began.

HOLSTEIN BEGINNINGS IN WISCONSIN

It was in 1873, about forty-seven years ago, that the first purebred Holstein was brought to Wisconsin. This animal was a bull, Elswout Prince No. 95 H. H. B. Mr. Septer Wintermute of Whitewater brought in this bull which he had bought from Mr. H. C. Hoffman of Horseheads, N. Y.

The next purebreds to be brought to the state were four cows and a bull which were brought by Mr. O. E. Merrill of Beloit in the summer of 1876 or 1877. Merrill soon sold all these animals to Mr. T. W. Laramy who established the first herd of purebred Holsteins in the state.

OTHER EARLY BREEDERS

The next animals brought were a cow and a bull calf purchased by the University of Wisconsin in the summer of 1878.

Gray and Van Waters of West Salem then purchased one purebred female, but no record can be found of their buying any bulls at this time nor did they register any descendants of the first cow purchased.

Before the close of the year, 1880, the following additional persons had all purchased purebred females as well as bulls: T. K. Gillett, Rosendale; H. C. Moore, Fond du Lac; R. R. Wilson, Plymouth; J. C. Zimmerman, New Glarus; H. H. Beebe, Marshall; Jacob Stensey, New Glarus; F. W. Maxon, Walworth; and Wm. C. Sherwood, Dartford.

During the next ten years quite a large number started with purebreds and many with grades. Their growth in numbers and popularity, however, was

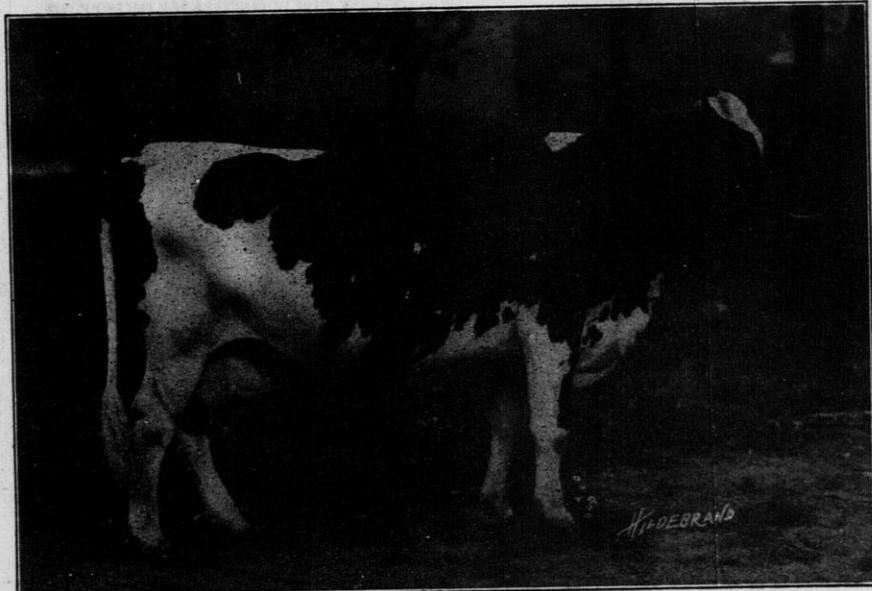
*Taken from Thesis O. K.'d by Prof. Geo. C. Humphrey.

representing the three most prominent breeds of dairy cattle also proved the excellence of the Holstein-Friesian cow not only in total production but also in economy of production.

OUTSIDE DEMAND FOR DAIRY CATTLE

There is another factor which has had a small influence on the growth of the Holstein-Friesian industry in Wisconsin and that is the great demand for dairy cattle from outside the state. Hundreds of carloads of purebred and grade dairy cattle are shipped out of Wisconsin every year to supply foundation stock and to build up the dairy herds in other states. Nearly every state to the southeast, south, southwest, and west is coming to Wisconsin to buy dairy cattle.

The wide-awake Wisconsin farmer, who perhaps has not been using purebred sires and has had only mediocre herds of cattle, has been quick to realize



Grand Champion Holstein Cow, National Dairy Show, 1920.
Another Wisconsin product—an investment that brings substantial returns.

the value of this market outside the state and is rapidly building up a good grade and purebred herd so that he, too, can have a part in this great volume of business which has been built up because of the superiority of the dairy cattle in Wisconsin.

At any rate, no matter what the exact reasons are, the fact is that the Holstein cow has filled and is filling an important place on the farms of Wisconsin. She has been and is a money-maker and that is the great reason why she is so popular.

HOLSTEINS FILLING AN IMPORTANT PLACE

It seems probable, judging from the number of Wisconsin members of the national association, that there are in the neighborhood of 4,500 breeders of purebred Holstein cattle in the state who have at least a few purebred females. In addition to these there are probably at least three times as many more who have grade herds and are using purebred Holstein sires.

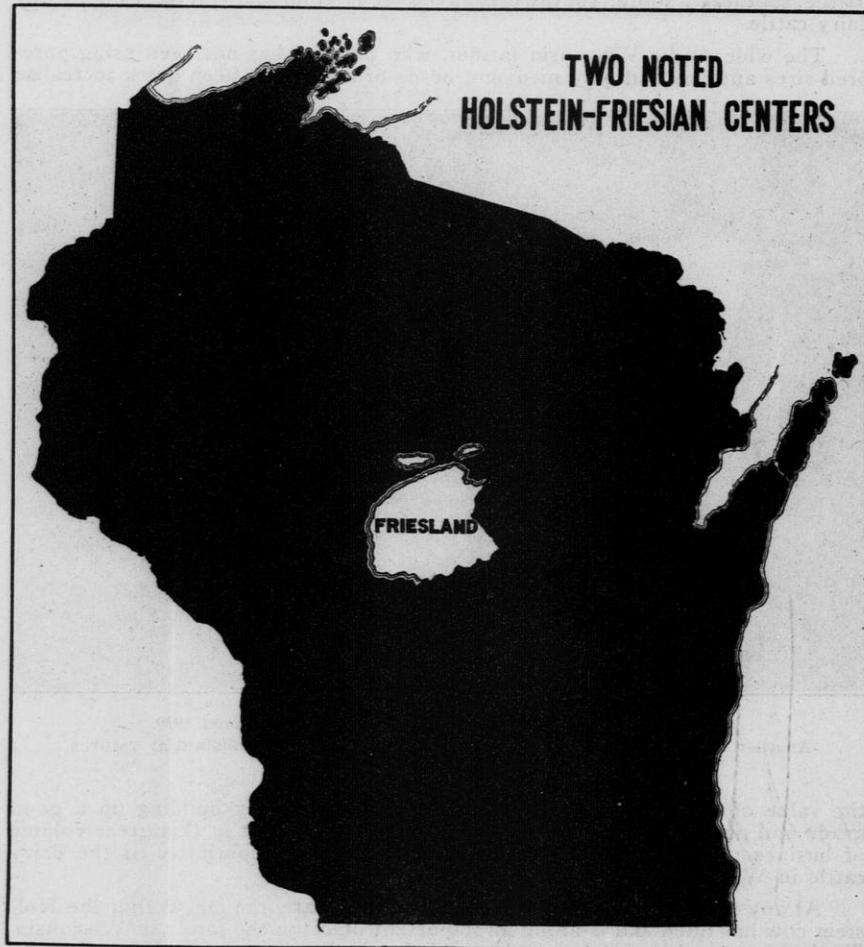
HOLSTEIN NOTES

The Holstein-Friesian Association of America now numbers 18,000 members. The number of purebred cattle exclusive of Canada is 875,960.

* * * *

At the close of the fiscal year 1919-20 there were 12,719 entries in the Advanced Registry. Thirty-two cows of the breed have records ranging from 1,000 to 1,205 lbs. of butter fat in one year.

* * * *



Wisconsin is indebted to Friesland for the ancestors of her now famous Holsteins.

In 1919 there were 18,279 head of purebred Holstein cattle sold at Public Auction in the United States at an average price of \$361 per head.

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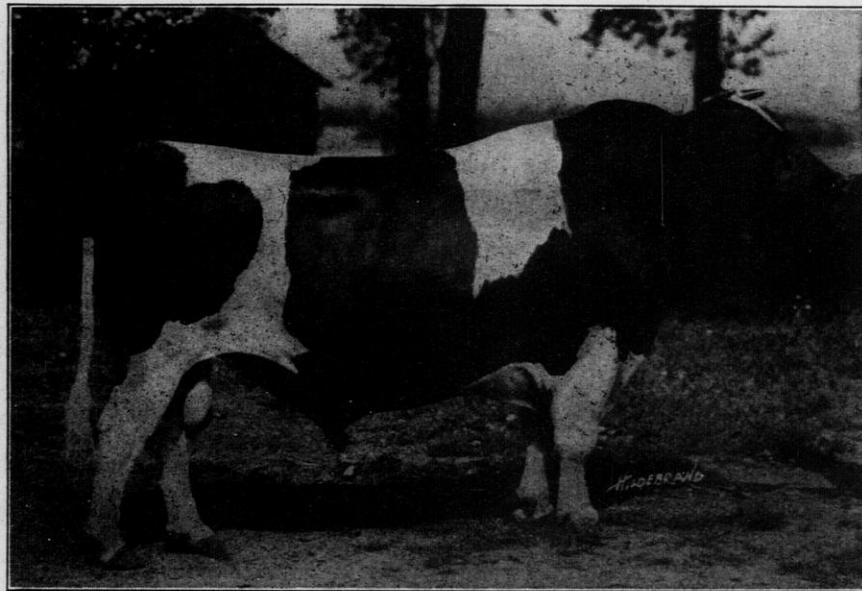
The value of Holstein sires for improving grade or scrub herds is shown in a test at the Iowa Experiment Station where the first generation heifers by

slow. There seemed to be a general feeling against registered stock. Farmers did not appreciate the value of better care and its necessity with better stock.

HOLSTEINS COMING UNTO THEIR OWN

The Holstein-Friesian cow was not yet properly appreciated. She was recognized as a great milk producer but not as a butter cow. Her milk was blue and the cream rose slowly and was never thick and leathery like the Jersey's. It was generally felt that she did not produce much butter.

In the early nineties, two events in the dairy world placed the Holstein-Friesian cow in her proper position as far as being a dairy animal is concerned. The first of these events was the wonderful work of Dr. S. M. Babcock in giving to the world the "Babcock tester." This great invention settled once for all the fact that Holstein milk was not entirely water as had been popularly supposed but that it contains an average of about 3.4% of butter fat.



Grand Champion Holstein Bull, National Dairy Show, 1920.
A Wisconsin product—the kind that increases bank accounts.

The other great event was the coming into general use of the centrifugal cream separator. This enabled those farmers owning Holstein cows to get the butter fat from the milk with practically no loss, which was impossible under the old methods of separation. From that time on the growth of the Holstein industry in Wisconsin has been really one of the marvels of the present day.

REASONS FOR HOLSTEIN POPULARITY

There is another factor which undoubtedly has had great weight in making grade Holstein cows popular throughout the state and that is the large, vigorous calves which they produce.

The ease with which the Holstein calves and young stock are grown has also been another factor which has made this cow particularly popular throughout the new sections of the state.

The Wisconsin dairy cow competition conducted from 1909 to 1911 in which 395 yearly records were obtained from cows in 47 different herds and

a purebred Holstein sire show an increase of 2,988 lbs. (90%) of milk and 95.5 lbs. (59%) of butter fat over their scrub dams. The second generation of Holstein grades averaged 11,120 lbs. of milk and 400 lbs. of butter fat, an increase of 194% in milk and 138% in butter fat over their scrub granddams.

* * * *

With less than two per cent of registered cattle in the United States, there is little danger of becoming overstocked with good dairy cattle.

* * * *

Headquarters.—Holstein-Friesian Association of Wisconsin, L. L. Oldham, Secretary, 241 Washington Building, Madison, Wisconsin.

Holstein-Friesian Association of America, F. L. Houghton, Secretary, Brattleboro, Vermont.

SPECIAL NOTICE

HOLSTEIN BREEDERS.—The Banker-Farmer Exchange expects to have ready for distribution on December 1, 1920, a special list of Holstein cattle for sale from all parts of the State which will go to every bank in the State. Many of the bankers will distribute this to their farmer patrons. Breeders having stock for sale are invited to list them with their local banker on or before November 15, and they will be included in this special sale list.

Those desiring to purchase Holsteins, grades or purebreds, are invited to list their wants and we will get them in touch with the breeders who have the kind of stock they want to buy.

OTHER BREEDERS will be interested to know that we hope to issue from time to time special bulletins and sale lists of other leading breeds of livestock in the State. In the meantime the Banker-Farmer Exchange is equipped to handle lists of grade or purebred livestock for sale of any breed. See listing blanks at local bank.

PROSPECTIVE BUYERS of any breed can secure lists of what is offered for sale by recording their wants at the local bank or writing to the

BANKER-FARMER EXCHANGE,

D. H. Otis, Director,

1822 Chadbourne Ave.,

Madison, Wisconsin.