**Dairy Breeds**

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**Holstein**

- Originated in the Netherlands
- Second oldest of the pure dairy breeds.
- Black and white
- Most fluid milk produced
- Large body size (1500 lbs)

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**Red Holsteins**

- Originated in the Netherlands
- Prevalent in Europe
- Represented by its own association
- Breed characteristics are identical to black and white Holsteins

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**Jersey**

- Originated in the Netherlands
- Prevalent in Europe
- Represented by its own association
- Breed characteristics are identical to black and white Holsteins
Jersey

- Originated on the island of Jersey (off the coast of the British Isles).
- Color is shade of fawn or cream with black muzzle
- Smallest in body size (1000 lbs)
- Highest milk fat

Guernsey

- Originated on the Isle of Guernsey
- Color is a shade of fawn with white markings
- Golden skin
- Clear muzzle is favored over a smoky or black muzzle
- Large frame size (1100 lbs)

Brown Swiss

- Native to Switzerland
- Oldest of the pure dairy breeds.
- Solid brown varying with very little light to dark
- Objectionable Markings
  - White or off color spots
  - Light streaks up the side of the face
  - Pink nose
- Strong and vigorous

Brown Swiss

- Known for strong legs, long life, and milking persistency. They also quickly adapt to different environments.
- The approximate weight of a mature cow should be 1500 LB
Ayrshire

- Originated in Scotland
- Deep cherry red, mahogany, brown, or a combination of any of these colors with white, or white alone
- Red and white markings are preferred
- Black is objectionable.
- Mature weight of 1200 lb.

Milking Shorthorn

- Originated in England.
- Any combination of red, red and white, or roan
- Dual purpose
- Mature weight 1250 lb.

Production by Breed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Milk Production</th>
<th>% Protein</th>
<th>% Fat</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ayrshire</td>
<td>17,057</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Swiss</td>
<td>18,450</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td>1500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guernsey</td>
<td>16,705</td>
<td>3.56</td>
<td>4.57</td>
<td>1100</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holstein</td>
<td>22,547</td>
<td>3.19</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>1500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jersey</td>
<td>16,527</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>4.75</td>
<td>1000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milking Shorthorn</td>
<td>17,421</td>
<td>3.34</td>
<td>3.69</td>
<td>1250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reasons

Click to listen

- 3 year-old Jersey
- 4 year-old Jersey
- 5 year-old Holstein
References

- Purina Mills
  - http://dairy.purina-mills.com
- Holstein Association
  - http://www.holsteinusa.com
- American Jersey Association
  - http://www.usjersey.com
- Hoards Dairyman
  - http://www.hoards.com
- World Holstein Friesian Federation
  - http://www.whff.info