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## UA11/2 WKU Holsteins Rated Top Milk Producers

WKU Public Affairs

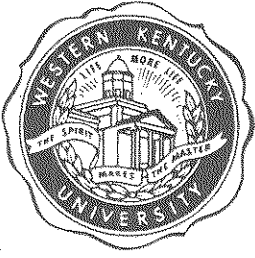
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# News from Western

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## WKU HOLSTEINS RATED TOP MILK PRODUCERS

Bowling Green, Ky.--Two cows from Western Kentucky University's 100-cow purebred Holstein dairy herd have been rated nationally among the five best milk producers in America, listed by the "Holstein-Friesian World," the journal of the Holstein-Friesian Association of American (HFAA).

Western's Holstein herd rated as the top herd in the nation for herds of its size bracket. The Western herd was first in Kentucky, and also one of the few top-rated herds operated by any college or university. The national ratings of herds of all sizes placed Western's herd in 30th place on the honor list.

WKU Holsteins, "C Dunkerron Leader Inka" and "Hoosier-Acres Rosafe Alicia," finished third and fifth on the HFAA Honor List for 1975, with 259 and 221 points respectively. The first and second cows had 436 and 342 points.

The number of points acquired by each cow is determined by the amount of milk and butter fat she produces. The Dairy Herd Improvement Registry (DHIR), official production testing arm of the HFAA, assigned point values for production of cows enrolled during 1975.

Inka, at seven years and three months, produced 31,340 pounds of milk with 4.7 per cent or 1458 pounds of butterfat. She was milked twice a day over a test duration of 305 days. Inka is also first in class for both milk and fat in Kentucky and is currently fourth for fat in the United States, based on ratings in the "World."

The herd produced an average of 18,769 pounds of milk for 78 lactations, with 3.8 per cent or 707 pounds of butter fat. There were also 88 head with a Breed Association

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HONOR LIST HOLSTEINS. . . (Add One)

Average per cent of 103.0. "This number is a type classification--the cows are compared to an ideal Holstein model and they are given a 100 per cent rating if they measure up," says Charlie Jones. "103 is a really excellent rating," he said.

Alicia, at nine years and ten months, produced 32,390 pounds of milk with 3.9 per cent or 1266 pounds of butterfat. She was also milked twice a day over a test span of 305 days.

"The most important indicator is the number of pounds of milk produced by a cow," says Dr. Leonard D. Brown, head of Western's agriculture department. "Butterfat production is also important; the more fat in the milk the more the farmer gets paid for his milk," says Dr. Brown. "The Holstein breed average for butterfat production is somewhere around 3.6 per cent, he says.

The Western farm is operated primarily by agriculture students and all feeding and milking is done by agriculture majors. Charlie Jones, a 1971 WKU dairy science graduate, is in his fourth year as superintendent of dairy operations at the farm.

In 1972, Western had no cows on the Honor List but the DHIR average has increased over 3500 pounds of milk and almost 200 pounds fat since then, according to the "World."

In addition to the Holstein herd, WKU also keeps a herd of purebred Angus beef cattle, a herd of purebred Polled Hereford beef cattle, and a purebred Yorkshire swine herd on the University farm.