

About The American Jersey Cattle Association

Organization. The American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) was organized in 1868 and is the oldest dairy breed association in the U.S. The AJCA has 2,039 active members (May, 2017) and provides services to more than 5,000 Jersey owners each year. The membership elects a 12-person Board of Directors plus a President. In addition to the AJCA, there is National All-Jersey Inc. (NAJ) and its subsidiary, All-Jersey Sales Corporation (AJSC). NAJ, which at the end of 2017 had 1,023 members, has its own Board of Directors. Policy, programs, and services for all three organizations are carried out by a 40-person full-time professional staff under the direction of the Executive Secretary & Chief Executive Officer.

The purposes of the American Jersey Cattle Association are to improve and promote the breed of Jersey cattle in the United States and to maintain such records and activities as the Association deems necessary or conducive to the best interests of the breeders of Jersey cattle.

National All-Jersey Inc.'s purposes are to promote the increased production and sale of Jersey milk and milk products, and to promote Jersey cattle and the interests of breeders of Jersey cattle.

Programs and services designed to serve these purposes include:

- **Registration.** A total of 184,957 animals were recorded in the association's animal database during 2017. The three-year average (2015-17) for registrations is 139,689. Since its organization in 1868 and through December 31, 2017, the AJCA has compiled pedigree records for 6,598,164 animals. Jerseys (*registered and unregistered*) comprise an estimated 13% of all dairy cows in the United States, and increasing at an accelerating pace. The population of Jersey cows at January 1, 2018 was estimated at 1.25 million head.
- **Production, type appraisal, and genetic information.** There were 162,224 Jersey cows enrolled in AJCA performance evaluation programs at December 31, 2017, with linear type information collected from 115,563 animals during the year. AJCA was nominator for 28,635 animals genotyped in 2017, with 219,981 genotyped males and females contributing to CDCB official evaluations in December of 2017.
- **Education and promotion** through publication of a monthly magazine, *Jersey Journal* (*also available online at <http://jerseyjournal.usjersey.com>*), a website at USJersey.com, Facebook pages (*USJersey, Jersey Journal, Queen of Quality®, Jersey Marketing Service*), plus news releases.
- **Funding Jersey-specific research.** The Jersey organizations have an endowed Research Foundation that funds competitively selected and directed research projects (*see www.usjersey.com/Programs/Researchprogram.html*). Since 1988, more than \$1 million has been invested in research using Foundation's resources.
- **Assisting Jersey owners in finding markets that pay for the added value of Jersey milk.** Market-average Jersey milk (4.90% fat, 3.74% true protein) was valued at 21% more than market-average milk (3.5% fat, 2.9% protein) across Federal Order markets for the first three quarters of 2017. Jersey milk in orders with multiple component pricing (MCP) was valued up to 26% more than average milk.
- **Marketing of live cattle and embryos.** In 2017, Jersey Marketing Service, a subsidiary of NAJ, marketed 5,259 live animals, plus embryos and semen for \$9,377,574 through private treaty and at public auction.

Production. Jerseys produce the highest quality milk in the world. Weighing 1,050 lbs. on average, they are also the most efficient converters of feed to milk. The 2017 AJCA lactation average (m.e. adjusted) for Jerseys enrolled in AJCA testing programs was:

20,150 lbs. Milk 985 lbs. Fat 743 lbs. Protein Cheese Yield: 2,529 lbs. Actual 305-day ECM: 21,977

Jerseys also have the highest yield of manufactured products, explaining high demand for Jersey milk:

Estimated Yield of Manufactured Dairy Products per 100 lbs. Jersey milk

Cheddar Cheese	Cottage Cheese	Swiss Cheese	Mozzarella Cheese	Butter
12.58 lbs.	16.48 lbs.	10.01 lbs.	11.58 lbs.	5.88 lbs.

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