Wortwell Dispersal draws the Buyers

Chris Whipps' decision to transport his Wortwell herd from Norfolk to The Bristol Sales Centre proved to be a sound one as a substantial crowd gathered for its dispersal. 41 buyers were recorded from 17 different counties with several others bidding but unable to keep pace with the trade. Despite some potential bidders wary of cows living in loose yards, the trade for all grades of stock was most encouraging. The herd was one of the most naturally heavy milking sold for a while with an average of 10,000 litres on just 2.2 tonnes of concentrate and many of the cows giving over 40 litres daily including some 15 doing in excess of 50 litres. The 239 animals sold returned a good average of \pounds 1,227 each

Ever since the catalogue was published, there had been many favourable comments about the herd and in particular the outstanding cow pictured on the cover. It was fitting then that Wortwell Faber Mona EX-94-3E made the top price of 2,500 guineas. Milking in her 6th lactation, she was producing 54 litres a day and looked a truly special mature cow. She travels to Essex to join Philip Smith's Wigboro herd near Clacton. Philip was one of a posse of East Anglian supporters who came across to the sale, taking 9 head including another high yielding Mona by O'Man at 2,400 guineas.

Chris Whipps had bred and used several of his own bulls to great effect. The daughters of Wortwell Jet stood out, selling to 2,350 guineas and averaging almost £1,700 apiece. The only working age bull in the sale Wortwell Harry, a Shottle son of a Shaker dam, sold for 2.080 guineas to Fred Simcock from Ledbury who with his son, were the main buyers at the sale, taking 41 head back to Herefordshire.

Stowell Farms from Marlborough were in unstoppable form when bidding for young stock, claiming 28 heifers for their Goldenball herd, including the top priced heifer calf at foot – Wortwell Shottle Milly 2 PLI+£148 for 900 guineas. Young stock were in great demand throughout the day with bulling heifers (aged 14months+) averaging £1,142 and the heifer calves at foot averaging £440.

Lot	Animal	Buyer	Price-gns
14	Wortwell Faber Mona EX-94 (3E)	Smith Farms Clacton Ltd (Wigboro)	2,500
105	W. Reece Joyful GP-82	K.W Jenkins & Sons (Dawesford)	2,500
35	W. September Fay EX-90 (2E)	D & S.M Osborne (Torvalley)	2,400
94	W. Reece Elizabeth VG-87	D.B & R.M Edwards	2,400
96	W. Justice Mona VG-85	Smith Farms Clacton Ltd (Wigboro)	2,400
72	W. Jet Rose VG-87	P.A Robertson (Brinkmarsh)	2,350
90	W. Jet Tiffany VG-85	P.A Robertson (Brinkmarsh)	2,250
120	W.Laurin Jambette GP-84	T. Crawford & Co Ltd (Topcroft)	2,200
110	W. Bolton Milly GP-82	F. Simcock	2,100
174	W. Harry	F. Simcock	2,080
73	W. Garrison Mona GP-81	P.A Robertson (Brinkmarsh)	2,050
115	W. Snow Mona 2 GP-83	E.M & A.P Alford	2,050
63	W. Principal Katie VG-85	F. Simcock	2,020
111	W. Justice Betty VG-87	J. Biddle (Acton)	2,000
146	W. Shottle Trixie 2 GP-84	G.J Dalton (Haresdown)	2,000
204	W. McCormick Trixie PLI+£187	P.G & A.J Barrell & Sons (Gemini)	2,000

TOP PRICES

Averages:

143	Cows & Calved Heifers	avg.	£1,404
27	Served Heifers	avg.	£1,431
39	Maiden Heifers	avg.	£1,008
1	Bull		£2,184
210	Lots (incl 26 'A' lots @£440)	avg.	£1,396

Auctioneers: NORTON & BROOKSBANK With GWILYM RICHARDS & CO