

Pedigree & Commercial heifers tie for top honours

A strong trade for fresh heifers was once again the feature of the April Bristol Dairy Sale this week with two heifers – one pedigree, one commercial sharing the top price honour at 2,320 guineas. A lesser quality offering reflected a lower average than last month's impressive figures, but plenty of buyers from all parts of the West Midlands as well as Somerset, Wiltshire & Wales made sure all bar 2 found new homes.

Mike Toms of Messrs J.F Temple & Sons made the long journey from Norfolk once again and made 2,320 guineas of his tall milky 'Toystory' heifer bred from the Lavender family. 4 weeks calved she was giving 38kg daily and travels to Herefordshire to join Messrs J.C & R.A Meredith's Shepsty herd.

The first non-pedigree heifer in the ring was a fine specimen, consigned by Adrian Ratcliffe, who as usual attracted strong support for his team of 9 fresh heifers. She fetched 2,320 guineas, selling to Amos Partners from Ross-on-Wye.

Alun Davies of Caerlleon Farms Ltd near Whitland consigned 4 young milkers to average £2139, including the top priced cow Caer Shottle Mair 54 GP-84, that made 2,250 guineas to Messrs B.M Coombes & Sons Ltd from Wedmore in Somerset for their Larkmoor herd.

Messrs H.W & N Webb from Purton, Swindon dispersed their small non-pedigree unrecorded herd with a top price of 1,800 guineas for a fresh heifer by Lakemead Rancher.

Served heifers made up to 1,700 guineas for a Bolivia Allen daughter from the PI Verna family and maiden heifers / calves peaked at 900 guineas for a non-pedigree bulling heifer.

AVERAGES:

11 Pedigree Calved Heifers	avg.	£1,878
3 Pedigree Cows	avg.	£1,767
2 Pedigree Served heifers	avg.	£1,627
46 Ped. Maiden Heifers / calves	avg.	£ 714
2 Bulls	avg.	£1,207
64 head	avg.	£1,008
18 Non-pedigree Calved Heifers	avg.	£1,550
15 N-P Cows	avg.	£1,073
3 N-P Served Heifers	avg.	£1,491
36 Head	avg.	£1,347

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