

Pledge Daughter Princess

Provides Lots of Breeding Success in the Netherlands and Australia

In May 2015, HI published a report about Windy-Knoll-View, the beautiful farm in Pennsylvania where the Pala family has provided impressive breeding success for years. But also beyond the US, this cow family has splendid performances, like Watermolen Princess in the Netherlands. Pledge's Goldwyn daughter developed into a mega-donor and realized unprecedented results at Eclipse Holsteins in Australia; 4x VG-87 in the female line and a top type index in the male line!

📷 BERT WESSELDIJK 📷 HAN HOPMAN

More than 140 of her embryos have been exported since 2009 to a large number of different countries, and she has still not disappeared from the scene. The combination of Goldwyn x Outside is super strong and the cow family is continually improving.' Speaking is Adolf Langhout from ALH Genetics. And the "her" in his commentary is Watermolen Princess, the Goldwyn daughter of Windy-Knoll-View Pledge, who on the farm of Martin de Groot (Watermolen Holsteins) in the Dutch Tienhoven developed into a true gene fountain. Besides all of the embryos they have sold through the years, at De Groots no less than 34 direct daughters of Princess were born. With the logical result that two thirds of the 60-head dairy herd currently consists of descendants of Princess. And that portion is only growing. Various members of the family are flushed on a regular basis, and last month Princess herself still provided 12 first class embryos by Mogul...

TALL AND CLUMSY

The Princess story at Watermolen began in September 2006, when two purchased embryos out of Pledge resulted in the birth of the Goldwyn calf Princess. 'As a calf she was certainly nothing special and as a heifer, she was tall and clumsy,' shares Martin about the product of the unique

combination of Goldwyn and Pledge, who already at a young age drew a lot of interest... from all parts of the world, nonetheless. 'Worldwide, there were just four Goldwyn daughters of Pledge: Two in Japan, one in Great Britain and the one at our place. International interest was enormous. Even Charlie Will has been here and various embryos were sold to the US,' explains Martin. After a difficult start, embryo production really took off. 'As a heifer, her first two flushes failed, but after that she started producing eggs... Her 3rd and 4th flushes resulted in 35 together. And they really went all over the place,' continues Martin with a laugh. For years already, the sale of embryos and other breeding material has been an important financial enterprise on the side for his farm. 'The last time when the milk price was so low in 2009, Princess was in her first lactation. That year she made more on her own than all of the other cows combined!'

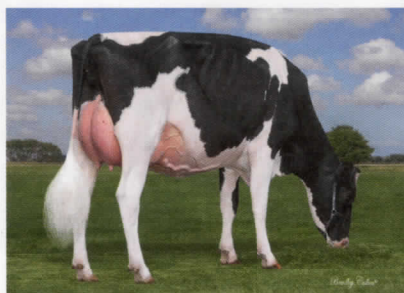
LATE-MATURING & PERSISTENT

De Groot is very pleased with the performance of the Princess family on his farm. They are cows who are able to combine high production with solid protein components. Add to that another two notable qualities: late maturity and persistency. De Groot: 'For heifers that have just freshened, you often think: yeah, it will turn

out okay... But 4 to 6 months later it's evident: yes, it is another good one!' According to Martin, the same is true for production; during the second 100 days they often give more than in the first 100. 'Look, as a two-year-old, this Windbrook gave 11,000 kg in 305 days. She started with 40 kg and kept that up through most of the lactation. Late maturity and persistency are real family traits. For that reason the cows are able to handle the production so well.' The Windbrook in question is Watermolen Paradise, who recently calved for the second time and displays tremendous sweep of rib and a fantastic (rear) udder. In the first lactation she scored the maximum of VG-89 and Paradise also won the champion title at South Holland's Wintershow. 'And that when she was not much of a heifer to look at... and I even put an embryo in her as a heifer,' says Martin with a smile, while he introduces various members of the Princess family, including direct Princess daughters by Brawler, Bogart, Million, Snowman, Mascalese, Super-sire and Damion; And Princess' Baxter daughter Watermolen Panky, who in 3 (long) records has now produced 62,000 kg with 3.56% protein. She is joined in the herd by her VG-89 Niagra daughter Poshe. 'In her second lactation she produced 16,000 kg in 305 days, but never produced above 60 kg,' shares Martin about Poshe,



Australian breeding talent Eclipse Damion Princess VG-89 (Damion-Princess).



Eclipse Atwood Princess 2 VG-85, whose Alltheway displays 3.93 gPTAT.



Show star Eclipse Atwood Princess 7 VG-87, scores no less than 3.85 gPTAT.



The almost 10-year-old Watermolen Princess VG-89 (right) still looks great and has proven herself to be a true breeding phenomenon. In the picture she is flanked by her show-winning granddaughter Watermolen Paradise VG-89 (Windbrook-Damion-Princess).

who is the dam of the champion two-year-old Watermolen Shamrock Plabet VG-88 and bull-dam Watermolen Supersire Priss – her Montross daughter is now being flushed for contracts.

ATWOOD X DAMION

What are the best combinations with Princess? De Groot needs to think about an answer for a moment. 'Baxter, Bogart and Damion,' he responds. From the mating Damion-Princess, there is an impressive third lactation cow at Tienhoven. While a full sister at Ponderosa in Spain is the dam of the previously mentioned Paradise. A third sister is quickly creating excitement as a brood cow in Australia and is named Eclipse Damion Princess. 'Maybe it is still too early to say, but Damion Princess is probably the best brood cow that I have ever had,' says Richard Hull from Eclipse Holsteins. Especially the flush of Damion Princess with sexed semen from Atwood was a real hit. From this, no less than 9 daughters were born, including Eclipse Atwood Princess 1 and 7, who performed well at Australia's National Show (IDW). In addition, Princess 7 displays a globally unprecedented type index of +3.85 gPTAT. 'We just had classification today and that turned out splendidly,' says an enthusiastic Hull. After the last classification round,

♀ **Windy-Knoll-View Ultimate Pala EX-94**
(Quality Ultimate)



♀ **Windy-Knoll-View Promis EX-95**
(Startmore Rudolph)



♀ **Windy-Knoll-View Pledge EX-95**
(Comestar Outside)



♀ **Watermolen Princess VG-89**
(Braedale Goldwyn)

four Atwood sisters – including Princess 1 and 7 – have 87 points behind their name. 'VG-89 is rarely given to two-year-olds in Australia. That has now happened with four heifers out of one flush, which is really special!' Richard praises the Atwood sisters for their tremendous openness of rib and their superior udders. Their rumps are also very solid. 'The frame of Damion Princess is extremely correct. She has a strong top line, loins, and rump. For that reason, the combination with Atwood worked out so well.'

ECLIPSE ALLTHEWAY

The Damion daughter has the maximum score of VG-89 and was also flushed extensively in

her 2nd lactation; interest in her embryos is enormous. 'We stopped flushing for 6 months and are trying to get Damion Princess pregnant so that she can score EX in her third lactation,' shares Richard, who indicates that the Princess family has additional outstanding qualities, such as temperament and fertility. The flushing results are almost always good. But above all else, praise falls to their exceptional type, even with the next generation. Coming into production are Damion Princess daughters by Bradnick, Doorman, Brokaw and the Hull-bred Atwood son with top type, Archrival. Out of Damion Princess' Atwood daughters there are now numerous promising descendants of High Octane, Capital Gain, Mogul, Doorman and Byway. 'From High Octane we have 19 daughters out of various Atwood sisters. As a group, they are unbelievably good,' says a proud Richard. In addition, breeders in Australia and other Holstein countries will shortly have access to the special type genes from the eye-catching Princess family via the male line! A son of Byway (Meridian-Atwood) out of Eclipse Atwood Princess 2 scores no less than 3.93 gPTAT. He was born on July 30, 2015 and is expected to produce his first semen soon. Hull: 'Then he will be the highest available type bull in the world.' His name: Eclipse Alltheway. ●