

WHY BULL SEMEN SHOULD BE IMPORTED INTO THE ISLAND OF JERSEY

A SUMMARY OF THE KEY POINTS

Q: Will importing semen improve the Jersey cow in the Island?	A: YES
--	---------------

- Despite much emotion on this point, the science is inescapable. The facts show that whether it is for milk production, milk quality, animal health or physical conformation traits, access to the top Jersey bulls in the world will improve the Island herd.
- This has been verified through independent research by many geneticists and cattle breeders.

Q: Will this really improve the efficiency of milk production in the Island?	A: YES
---	---------------

- Research carried out over many years shows that daughters of superior bulls perform more efficiently.
- The States of Jersey Livestock Advisor has researched the impact of imported genetics and concluded that it would be of significant financial benefit to the industry.

Q: Will the Jersey herd in the Island look the same and be pure Jerseys?	A: YES
---	---------------

- To the interested observer there would be no difference in the size, colour or look of the Jersey herd in the Island. The likelihood of any other breed becoming established is very remote.
- The pedigree status of the Island herd will continue to be protected through the Jersey Herd Book, after all this is really about bringing back the bloodlines that were exported from the Island and then developed in other national breeding programmes.
- A rigorous regime of DNA testing removes risk of so called 'mistakes' and ensures that the Jersey cow in its Island home remains 'pure'.

Q: Do the majority of dairy producers support it?	A: YES
--	---------------

- A petition was signed that has been re-confirmed within the last few days, and appears overleaf, which shows that:
- Over 53% of producers are in favour (15.5 of the 29 producers)
- They farm 72.5% of the cows (2,236 of 3,084)
- They produced 76.4% of the milk delivered to the Jersey Dairy in the last year.

Q: Does the industry support the proposal?	A: YES
---	---------------

- Importing genetics is a key part of the Dairy Industry Recovery Plan produced by the Jersey Milk Marketing Board.
- This was supported by the States commissioned 'Promar Report' and also scrutinised by the Economic Affairs Scrutiny Sub Panel.

Q: Will the local milk market continue to be supplied by Island industry?	A: YES
--	---------------

- The most immediate threat of milk importation comes from the industry not being able to produce enough milk to meet the local demand.
- Herds are known to be retiring in the coming months and years and there is a need to increase the production of those milk producers who are committed to the future.

Q: Is it important that this is decided now?	A: YES
---	---------------

- Dairy farmers are faced with making immediate decisions on committing substantial investment on their farms and at the dairy. The industry need to know that they can implement their recovery plan in full.
- If this is not decided it will severely affect the confidence of the future milk producers, their decision whether to invest in the industry and thus jeopardising the future of the Jersey cow in the Island.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE PROPOSITION P43/2008



ROYAL JERSEY AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

SEMEN IMPORT PETITION UPDATED – 28th APRIL 2008

We, the undersigned milk producers of Jersey, having submitted two petitions expressing our support for an amendment in the law to permit the importation of bovine semen into Jersey to improve the Jersey breed in its Island home, do hereby countersign that we support such an amendment:

Print Name: Signed: Number of cows: (Official NMR data)

Mr & Mrs JF. lefewre		130
TRINITY MAJOR FARMS		177
LODGE FARM LTD.		212
Chalet Jersey Ltd		280
CHRIS CUDLIPP		72
VICTORIA HUELIN LUCE P.F. FARMS		92
Richard Le Bouillie's		241
A. LE GALLATS		192
ROBERT PERCHARD		299
R.H.T SMITH.		13
G.P. ROMERIC		15
Richard Lee		225
J E LE MAISTRE		89
P F LE MAISIRE		99
J.H. MURZEN		33
J E PERCHARD		67
	TOTAL	2,236

The names above, in favour of importing semen, represent ⁵³..... % of producers who farm
^{72.6}..... % of the Island milking herd and produced ^{76.4}..... % of the milk sent to the dairy last year.