

## JERSEY CATTLE BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

### WJCB BUREAU GUATEMALA 2023

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF FARM VISITS

The farms to visit in the San José Pinula area are located in the mountainous area of the region, at an elevation between 7,500 and 9,000 feet. They are dedicated to dairy farming; descendants of those who imported, conserved, propagated and promoted the Jersey breed in Guatemala since the end of the 19th century and founding members of the Association of Jersey Cattle Breeders in Guatemala, ACJ.

1. Finca la Providencia owned by Mr. Herlindo Montenegro and family, founded and started in 1998. 80 head of Registered Jersey Cattle, with averages between 16 and 18 liters.

Production destined for the formal industry and 5% for artisanal dairy products. Genetic improvement with artificial insemination for use and commercialization. Rotational grazing, with 2 routine milkings, mechanized.

2. Finca San Francisco Las Nubes, owned by the Solis Muralles brothers and managed by Architect José Billeb. Starting in 1933, which is why they are celebrating their 90 years of work with the Jersey. Dedicated to dairy and agricultural work. Importers of the first Jersey bulls to Guatemala. Mechanical milking for the formal industry.

3. San Ramón Las Nubes, starting in September 2021 and dedicated to dairy production with 55 head of stock. It has a breeding programme using corrective mating in dairy herds run by Select Sires. Use for grazing and Compost barn. Avocado production, honey; nursery for cypress, pine and others; as well as coal. Property of Mantone S.A.

4. Las Nubes, property of Mr. Francisco Solis and family. Founded in 1965 and with genetic origin since 1933. Dairy production and yellow corn variety Gruchy for cattle feed. With recent foray into rural and nature tourism offering rest cabins and Jersey tours among others.

5. Las Violetas, property of Mr. René Montenegro and family. Started in May 2005. With 63 recorded cows and an average of 16.5 liters. Use of grazing with kikiyu and cutting, production of 300 tons of silo and semi-stalled Compost barn system. Mechanized milking.

6. La Primavera owned by the Melgar Cabrera family. Use of kikiyu for grazing, cutting and hay. Breeders of registered pure Jersey cattle, with 75 head. Reproduction by artificial insemination and in 2022 start with in vitro fertilization; implantation and export of embryos to achieve the first three births in February 2023. Mechanical milking and production for formal and artisan industry.

7. Riskmana, S.A. Jacobo, Ana Cabassa and family started the operation in 1989 with three registered Jerseys bought at Dr. Tejada Palo Blanco Farm, an important promoter and leader in the Jersey Association. We had a slow start since our experience was in Risk Management and Insurance where we named the farm. We became lovers of Jersey Cattle and their milk and began the long journey to learn about how to feed and manage cows. In 1997 we imported 18 heifers from McArthur Farms in Florida and continued our growth. In 2018 we switch from free stalls to compact compost barns with excellent results. We are now in transition to improve our production and training systems so we can compete in compensating our employees and raising their economic and educational levels. We are milking 135 Jerseys and expect to be close to 200 cows in two years

Among the other farms to visit are:

8. Finca San Yosé El Yalú, property of Mr. Federico Weller, located in Aldea San José El Yalú, Sumpango Sacatepéquez. Founded 30 years ago; milk production and rearing of pure Jersey. It has 68 registered animals. Reproduction by means of artificial insemination and natural mating. Intensive rotation system and supplementation with snow peas, French beans, and export vegetables. Mechanized milking.

9. Finca la Esperanza, property of Roberto Jarquín Pira and his wife. Started in 1983, due to the transfer of the capital city. 5th generation of dairymen. 110 registered Jersey animals, 60 milking cows with an average of 19 liters. plus the forras, a stallion and the lift. Processing of milk on the farm to make cheese, with the star “queso de Boy”, and marketing in own restaurants. Use of artificial insemination, natural mating and in-vitro embryo transplantation (Canada, USA and our own). Diet with forage, corn and triticale silages, kikuyu and ryegrass.

10. San Jerónimo Miramar Farm, owned by the Parma Dairy Products Factory, founded in 1984 and 588 head of cattle. Average of 14.72 liters from 231 milking cows. Reproduction by artificial insemination and review bull. Semi-stalled system, TMR balanced diet mix (Silage, Cut Grass, Hay, Concentrate). Holistic rotation grazing (Mombaza, Swazi, Star, Crossbreed). Compost with waste from the farm, NIRS analysis of forages. Located at a height of 848 meters above sea level.