



Our Cow of the Century

Berry's Brazo Century is a cow with the whole package. Not only is she a high producing cow, she also has the heart of a champion, milker that is. Century comes from a family line known for top milk production. Her granddam, Berry's Mannix Century, produced over 26, 000 lbs. of milk! Although Berry's Mannix Century was not a top Berry cow as far as confirmation, she most definitely proved her worth in the parlor. Using a method of corrective mating, wherein a cow and bull are chosen to create superior genetic offspring through complementary genetics, the students here at Berry College selected a bull, AI-Top All American. He was dually noted for his high production daughters and for good udder quality. From this mating came, Berry's Brazo Century's dam, Berry's All American Surprised. Not only was she a high milk producer but she was also classified with a score of 84 points at only 2 years of age! Her milk fat also increased compared to her dam. By means of continued corrective mating, Berry students bred Berry's All American Surprised to Sil-Mist RMBM Buttons Brazo. Thus, Berry's Brazo Century was born.

The quality of this animal is characterized by high milk production, butter fat over 1000, and an excellent classification. Here at the Berry Dairy, Century is best recognized for her willingness to produce. Life hasn't always been so simple for this uddered heroine. In her early years of production, Century overcame multiple life-threatening challenges. In one particular instance, Century was accidentally caught in a headlock where she remained penned through the night. When morning came, students arrived and found Century collapsed with severe pressure on her trachea, leaving her gasping for air. The students jumped into action by contacting Dr. Goldberg, the Berry College large animal veterinarian. Upon arrival Dr. Goldberg and the students were able to remove Century from the headlock. She was monitored for the next few days, resulting in the students observing a decrease in her feed intake and milk production. An exploratory surgery was scheduled to investigate the cause of these symptoms. The conclusion was grim with the finding of her stomach being twisted. With this new discovery Dr. Goldberg was able to perform the corrective surgery and once again save Century's life. After recovery, Century returned to a healthy state and her production increased. As Ben Wilson, the Berry Dairy Supervisor, raved, "This is the kind of cow every dairy wants to see waiting to be brought into the parlor."



Century is unique in that she is driven to work and has overcome many challenges, only to remain a genetically superior asset to the Berry Dairy herd as well as playing a key role in the growth and expansion of the herd. Along with her milk production, Century has also proved valuable in flushing. She has to date produced 43 embryos, six of which were sold to Jamacia in January 2010, and currently has 17 frozen embryos at Berry College from a breeding to Zuma and a breeding to Riley that are available for sale. In addition, Century's progeny at the Berry College Dairy are demonstrating similar outstanding genetics of her lineage. Select Sires has contracted 7 embryos from a Century daughter, Berry's T-Bone Chenoa and Blitzen breeding. She is also carrying a natural calf breeding to Renegade that is contracted to Jerseyland. Another daughter, Berry's T-Bone Panama, is pregnant to Legal and the natural calf is contracted to Select Sires. Century is a gem in the herd and wonderful animal that contributes above and beyond her genetics at the Berry College Dairy.

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