



By: Katie Henson, PA

Jonathan and Alicia Lamb, and their daughter Kyra, enjoy working with elite index/GTPI and type animals. Both facets have proven to be profitable for this 11th generation farmer and his family. Seen here with Craigcrest Rubies Rachele VG-88 2yr, 1st Jr 3yr Old NY Spring 2016

# OAKFIELD CORNERS DAIRY

## *Distinction In Genomics & Type*

Lamb Farms Inc. consists of 12,000 acres that produces all the forages needed for their 6,500 milking and dry cows and 6,600 heifers. About 115 employees work at Lamb Farms, ranging from milkers and heifer managers to embryo work and crop specialists. Oakfield Corners Dairy is the division that works with the cows, genetics and marketing programs.

Jonathan and Alicia, along with Jonathan's parents, Gordon and Peggy, and his brother Matthew and wife Kendra, manage all aspects of day-to-day care at the dairies. Jonathan's older brother, Craig, is a veterinarian and spends one day a week at the farm. They also have a non-family member partner, Jim Veazey, who oversees the crop production and manure management.

Jonathan and Matthew are the 11th generation of Lamb's to farm. The main dairy farm was purchased in 1966, making 2016 a landmark 50th year in Oakfield! Here the cows are milked in a 60-cow rotary parlor. At Lamb Farms #2, purchased in 1998, two double 10 Herringbone parlors are utilized. At Lakeshore Dairy, the cows are milked in a double 35 Herringbone. Lakeshore was purchased in 2009 and is about 45 minutes from the first two dairies. Each dairy milks 3-times-a-day and the cows are housed in free stalls. The overall herd DHI average is about 27,500 lbs.

Every animal is ID'ed with the Holstein Association USA. At Lamb Farms #2, all of the 2-year-olds are classified and add additional cows if needed. While at Lakeshore and Farm #1, classification consists of regular sets for young sire evaluation.

### Genomics: Rising To The Top

Over 4,500 fresh and frozen embryos are implanted per year, with two thirds of the embryo transfers a result of IVF. At Oakfield 75% of the total ET program is dedicated to high index/GTPI heifers and select cows, with



The Genetics Barn, with 14 boxstalls, a 4 stall step up parlor and a Trans Ova satellite facility, houses the elite type cows and heifers in their extensive flush program



WCD-ZBW Supersire Lavage-ET VG-85-DOM +2624GTPI is the highest GTPI milking female on the farm with several high GTPI daughters and many sons going into A.I



Calves are raised in individual hutches and fed pasturized milk 2 times-a-day until they are moved to group housing

25% dedicated to show type individuals. Approximately three quarters of the high index/GTPI heifers and select cows are conventionally flushed. Each recipient heifer is raised on the farm in group housing and fed a TMR consisting of mostly haylage and minimal corn silage.

The flush work takes place on the farm by Adam Dresser. An employee of OCD for 10 years, Dresser handles all aspects of the program from flushing and implanting the embryos to ultra-sounding pregnancies. Their pregnancy rate on conventional and fresh eggs is 70%!

"We flush a lot to get calves with the highest GTPI," said Lamb. "Sometimes though, it's like throwing darts at a bullseye, and once in a while we hope to get lucky and actually hit it!" The Lambs are always adding new genetics and cow families to their breeding program to diversify their genetic base.

The highest bulls from these flushes make their way to various studs with the first right of refusal on the majority of the matings given to Select Sires. The elite females are raised and flushed, sold privately or through their bi-annual Spring Sensation Sale held at the farm. The next tier of high ranking females become donor dams for the next generation of calves while the rest make their way into the commercial herds where they will be used as recipients.

The Lambs prefer to use high genomic young sires, many with the OCD prefix as/if they fit into the mating program, while some elite proven sires are being used.

WCD-ZBW Supersire Lavage-ET VG-85-DOM +2624GTPI is the highest GTPI milking female on the farm with several high GTPI daughters and many sons going into A.I. Lavage is backed by 9 Very Good and Excellent dams going back to Comestar Laurie Sheik.

OCD Planet Danica-ET EX-93-DOM is another cow that made an impact. Her daughters are making sons for AI and high GTPI daughters and granddaughters. Lost about a year ago, Danica's son, Donatello, is one of the top proven bulls of the breed along with sons, Dante and Dragonheart, also popular. Sold as a choice, Danica's Robust daughter, Miss OCD Robst Delicious-ET VG-87 DOM, has been an incredibly prolific cow for Butz Hill, Sexing Technologies and MB Lucky Lady.

OCD Robust Shimmer-ET EX-90-DOM +2401GTPI is another standout brood cow in the genomic market. Her Supersire daughter, OCD Supersire 9882, made many high bulls and daughters. Sold in the 2015 Spring Sensation Sale to Pine Tree Dairy in Ohio, she has calved out well and has made multiple offspring over +2700 GTPI. In fact, the highest heifer for the USDA May run is her +2871 GTPI Profit daughter at Pine-Tree Dairy!

"The philosophy at Oakfield Corners has always been the same, 'offer the very best and work



Lamb Farms #1 milks 3 times-a-day in a 60-cow rotary parlor. A meeting room with an observation area serves over 60 tours a year to the dairy in Oakfield, New York



Oakfield Corners implants over 4,500 embryos a year and each recipient is raised on the farm and fed a TMR ration of mostly haylage

with the rest' and when they conduct a sale offering, everyone in the industry knows it will be their finest," said Dave Rama, owner of The Cattle Exchange and manager of the Spring Sensation Sale.

OCD has found that the genomic end of their marketing plan has become more profitable in recent years. Jonathan's father, Gordon, was always interested in index numbers when Jonathan was growing up, but the farm has gained more interest over the years.

Jonathan and Alicia both agree they want to continue to stay at the top of the genomic game and not be complacent, all the while making a profit and justifying their investments.

### Excellence In Type

While growing up, the Lambs always had an interest in working with those special, select animals. Alicia, originally from Plant City, Florida, grew up on a 'hobby farm' with her brother and sister, milking less than 10 cows before eventually milking 70 cows in a grazing type of system. She was very active in showing, judging and dairy bowl in 4-H. That passion continues as she has coached several teams for the National

Dairy Bowl competitions.

Constructed in January 2015, the Genetics Barn is the newest facility built under Lamb Farms Inc. Housing heifers and cows in 14 boxstalls, the high type individuals are kept here with a 4-stall step-up parlor and a Trans-Ova IVF satellite facility.

At OCD for three years, Kelly Lee is the Genetics Barn manager. She oversees all aspects of cow care and marketing for the barn along with Ashley O'Hara of Canada. Ashley also manages the health requirements on all animals going to sales and those bulls going to A.I. companies.

Both the genomic and type calves are raised in hutches on pasteurized milk. If they 'make the cut' they are moved to the Genetics Barn and raised in groups of six to eight. Heifers are then worked with and put in various sales, but only those with an OCD and Oakfield prefixes will be sold.

OCD has sold many animals in recent years that have been Nominated All-American or All-Canadian. To name a few: Oakfield Goldwyn Lyric-ET (Reserve All-Canadian & HHM All-American Fall Yearling 2014), Oakfield Gold

Topaz-ET EX-93 (HHM All-Canadian 5 Year Old 2015) and OCD Camden Lyra-Red-ET (Junior All-American R&W Fall Calf 2015).

The Lambs enjoyed their own show ring success at this year's New York International Spring Show with the winning Junior 3-Year-Old, Craigcrest Rubies Rachele VG-88 EX-90 MS 2yr. Rachele was the Reserve All-New York Junior 2-Year-Old in 2015. Placing second in the Spring Yearling class was a recent purchase, Willdina Doorman Lindsay.

Cowtown Durham Luella-ET EX-94 has given Oakfield Corners 4 EX and 7 VG daughters to date. Luella's December 2015 Solomon daughter recently topped The Tag Sale at Oakfield Corners the end of April. This was the first year for this sale and it was held in conjunction with the Growing Through Showing Workshop. The dairy hosted over 250 juniors and their parents with sessions on showmanship, fitting, housing, nutrition, general show preparations and calf selection.

"It's great to work in a beautiful facility with awesome cows and cow families both in the type and genomic facets of the industry," said Kelly Lee. "Working for forward thinking and progressive dairymen like the Lambs is a great



Andy Beach, Adam Dresser, Kelly Lee holding Ernest-Anthony Jaz Tempo EX-94, Ashley O'Hara and Emilie Mulligan. Tempo is a fourth generation Excellent from Inspiration Tina EX-95!

opportunity; I am able to learn new things on the embryo transfer side of the business while bringing my prior show cattle experience to the farm. The diversity of the farm really allows me to grow."

"From the outside, a lot of people would assume the biggest part of the success of the OCD program would be due to its size. Having a large embryo transfer program is certainly an advantage, but I think the largest part of their success revolves around being exceptional at the little things," said Rick Ver Beek, Sire Analyst at Select Sires. "The other thing that Oakfield Corners excels in is organization. Their entire

staff is dedicated to the success of the breeding program and at any time you will find quick answers to any piece of information you need."

Besides working on the farm and being exceptional parents to their daughter, Kyra (1.5 yrs), with a second on the way, Alicia is a full time nutritionist off the farm and is the Vice President of the New York Holstein Association and National Dairy Shrine. She also enjoys judging across the United States and has traveled to Japan to judge their regional shows. Jonathan has been a past board member of Holstein Association USA, a delegate for Select Sire Power, and a member of the Select Sires cooperative. Jonathan and Alicia have been awarded the Distinguished Young Breeder at the state and national levels.

If traveling to the US National Holstein Convention in New York this summer, stop by and see their great facilities and genetic powerhouse. They are just minutes off the New York State Thruway in western New York!

# LIME HEADS TO SARATOGA!!



## CHERRY-LOR OUTLINE

### LIME-ET \*PP

**+2439 GTPI +74F +2.47T +2.28UDC +1.63FLC**

**LIME is one of the highest homozygous polled flush-age heifers in the World!**

**LIME SELLS!** 2016 National Holstein Convention Sale  
June 30th • Saratoga Springs, NY

Dam: Tiger-Lily SS Liquid-ET; recently fresh and looks great!  
1st two tests avg 5.9%F 3.4%P. Maternal Sister to Ladd-P  
Next Dam: VG-87 2yr Lawnboy X 4 more EX/VG Dams  
*Owned with Hembury Farms - Muncy, PA*

We are also working with two polled Kingboy sisters to **LIME!**

- Cherry-Lor Kingboy Lima \*RC \*PO +2454 GTPI
- Cherry-Lor Kingboy Loma \*PO +2451 GTPI

Embryos already exported from Loma!

Lime © Lea McCullough

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