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Rocca S. Casciano, Forlì - June 3rd -5th 2005



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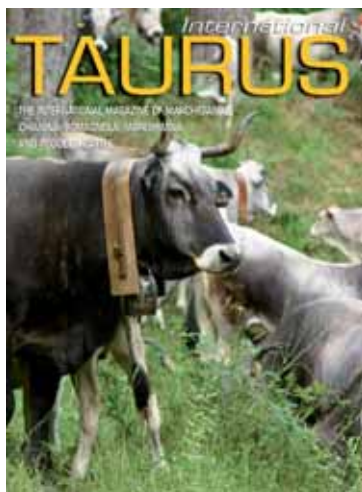
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Preliminary study on the calving difficulties of the five Italian beef breeds: Marchigiana, Chianina, Romagnola, Maremmana, and Podolica

As demonstrated for some breeds, the “calving difficulty” trait is of a certain importance within the framework of a breeding farms’ efficiency.

On the basis of what is already being done with other meat, double aptitude, or dairy breeds, this trait may be seriously considered also in the selection of Italian beef breeds.

This, of course, is all subject to the verification of the existence of a significant genetic component of the trait in question. In this framework, a preliminary phenotype analysis was carried out on the calving difficulties of the white beef breeds of central Italy, for the purpose of verifying the variability existing for this trait in the five breeds: Marchigiana, Chianina, Romagnola, Maremmana, and Podolica.

The calving difficulty data filed in the National Herdbook archives for the five breeds,

which are obtained from the breeding farms, were used and coded into 4 categories:

- A: spontaneous or unassisted calving;
- B: calving with the assistance of one person;
- C: caesarian section;
- D: calving with the assistance of 2 or more persons or mechanical means.

An initial analysis of distribution of the frequencies in the five breeds is shown in Table 1, and indicates how the breeds show a strong variability with regard to assisted calvings, which are practically non-existent for the Chianina and the two rustic breeds, Maremmana and Podolica, which total, respectively, incidence values of 3.2, 1.1, and 3.1% of the calvings in classes B, C, and D. It is a different matter for the Marchigiana and Romagnola, for which, in any case, difficult calvings (Caesarean section or assistance of 2 or more persons or mechanical means) are to be considered “rare” on the whole,

Table 1. Distribution of frequency of the various types of calving difficulty in the Italian white beef breeds.

| BREED | CALVINGS RECORDED | DIFFICULTY (%) | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | A | B | C | D |
| Marchigiana | 326,484 | 73.06 | 25.67 | 0.06 | 1.21 |
| Chianina | 217,005 | 96.76 | 2.97 | 0.04 | 0.23 |
| Romagnola | 122,622 | 85.48 | 13.70 | 0.12 | 0.70 |
| Maremmana | 36,938 | 98.89 | 1.06 | 0.00 | 0.05 |
| Podolica | 179,622 | 96.93 | 2.99 | 0.00 | 0.08 |
| TOTAL | 882,671 | 86.55 | 10.78 | 0.05 | 0.62 |

with a total incidence of 1.3 and 0.8%. Both breeds, on the other hand, differ rather substantially with regard to calvings with minimum assistance, which reach in the Marchigiana the considerable incidence of 25%, a value that is halved, albeit remaining in the 2 digit range, for the Romagnola (13.7%).

For a more in-depth analysis of the breeds that presented greater calving difficulty problems (Marchigiana and Romagnola), the frequencies of the events were calculated on the basis of the calving order and sex of the calf born.

In order to avoid possible distortions, twin calvings were not included, although they account for an incidence of 3-5% per breed, and codes C and D were combined, so as to create three calving difficulty levels. The results of this frequency distribution analysis are shown in Table 2.

As can be seen, the birth of a male calf produces a constant increase in the calving difficulties, with an average incidence of 2.6% higher in assisted calvings and 0.5% in very difficult calvings and caesarian sections.

This effect, which may surely be attributed to the higher weight at birth, reveals a trend that is not very variable among the calving orders considered, especially in the Marchi-

giana. In fact, while in the Romagnola we see a reduction in the incidence of assisted (B) or difficult (C+D) calvings between first-calvers and mature cows (15.2% vs. 12.5% and 1.1% vs. 0.5%), this is not the case for the Marchigiana breed, where it seems that the calving order is of no influence, given the limited average fluctuations observed on more mature cows for codes B and C+D.

This preliminary analysis on the calving difficulties of the five Italian beef breeds seems to indicate that the calving difficulty trait is not actually a problem in the case of the rustic breeds (Maremmana and Podolica) and the Chianina breed.

On the other hand, it could be a different matter for the Marchigiana and Romagnola breeds, where the incidences, at least for the assisted calvings, proved higher, especially in the Marchigiana breed, where one out of every four calvings requires assistance.

It is necessary, however, to stress the importance of the “quality” of the datum, i.e. it is necessary to always report the type of calving, using, where necessary, all the categories in order to produce a precise and specific “photograph” of the calving situation in the stalls of our breeds.

Table 2. Frequency distribution of 3 different types of calving difficulty in the Marchigiana and Romagnola breeds in relation to the sex of the calf born and by different calving order.

| Calving Order | Difficulty Code | MARCHIGIANA BREED | | | ROMAGNOLA BREED | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------|------|-----------------|--------|------|
| | | Calf sex | | | Calf sex | | |
| | | Male | Female | M-F | Male | Female | M-F |
| 1st calving | A | 72.1 | 75.3 | -3.2 | 81.9 | 85.5 | -3.6 |
| | B | 26.5 | 23.8 | 2.8 | 16.6 | 13.8 | 2.8 |
| | C+D | 1.4 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.8 |
| 2nd calving | A | 73.3 | 75.7 | -2.4 | 85.0 | 88.4 | -3.4 |
| | B | 25.3 | 23.4 | 2.0 | 14.1 | 11.3 | 2.9 |
| | C+D | 1.4 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| Calving \geq 3rd | A | 71.6 | 74.1 | -2.5 | 85.7 | 88.9 | -3.2 |
| | B | 27.1 | 24.8 | 2.3 | 13.7 | 10.8 | 2.9 |
| | C+D | 1.4 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.3 |

by *Gaia Martuscelli*

Genetic Evaluation, Research and Development Office



MARCHIGIANA, THE QUEEN OF BREEDS

THE BREED IS FINALLY BACK – AND IN DAZZLING FORM – IN THE RING OF THE NATIONAL SHOW.

The 23rd National Herd Book Show of the Marchigiana Breed, held from June 1 to 3, 2007 at the cattle market of Villa Potenza, in Macerata, as part of the Agricultural Exhibition of Central Italy, has finally been staged regularly again, following the restrictions posed last year by bluetongue, which prevented the participation of breeders from the province of Ancona.

The show catalogue included 285 subjects presented by 31 breeders from the provinces of Macerata, Ancona, Ascoli Piceno and Pesaro.

The latter province was back in the limelight at the National Show after being absent for several years. It was represented by Azienda “La Bigotta”, owned by the Vilmo brothers and Alessandro Nuti, who pleasantly surprised everyone with the professionalism they showed during their debut in the most prestigious ring.

The quality level of the cattle on display was worthy of the best traditions. Two judges were on hand, Giannetto Guerrini for the female section and Matteo Ridolfi for the male section.

Assisting them with the judging was Romina Bastari, a newly appointed expert and a regular at Marchigiana rings since childhood. Both judges were authoritative and consistent in their choices, fully explaining the classifications and indicating a model for this breed that is in line with the selective orientations promoted by the Association.

The females were the first in the ring and, as usual, they offered lively competition in all classes, Junior and Senior alike.

The judging work narrowed the best subjects down to two exciting finals that deserve a detailed commentary.

JUNIOR FEMALE FINALS

Competing in the heifer finals was a group of females that was extremely uniform in terms of breed typicality, muscle development and structural solidity:

- Santa, daughter of Piombo and presented by the Nuti brothers from La Bigotta, stood out because of her superior distinction, femininity, powerful top line and legs, beating the notable Star di Marco Mei and completely dominating the first category, which professionals observed was one of the best in the show.

- Stella, one of Limpido’s daughters presented by the Nuti brothers, won in the second category, making the debut of this surprising and welcome new entry even more exciting. Stella bested Sfida, sired by Gaetano Ercoli’s Mugello, because of a longer trunk and more correct legs.

- Sicilia, Erode’s daughter presented by Cristian Vissani, emerged as the clear-cut winner in the third category, prevailing over the noteworthy Sabina, daughter of Otello and presented by Marco Mei, because of superior distinction, trunk length, muscle development and rump width.

It was immediately evident that Sicilia was not only one of the leading contenders for the top title, but was unquestionably one of the most noteworthy subjects in the 23rd National Show.

- Rocca, the daughter of Ponzio presented by Pierino Staffolani, won the tough fourth category because of her superior dimensions, powerful



Nemia – Az. Agr. Ercoli Gaetano, Senior Championess

top line and impeccable legs, ahead of Rosa, sired by Opapo and presented by Marco Mei.

- Ronda, sired by Palio and presented by Valentino Vissani, stood out because of her vigor, general structural strength and superior muscle development, edging out Rina, the interesting daughter of Mugello presented by Cristian Vissani. In turn, Rina held her own against Renata, another distinguished favorite presented by La Bigotta.

- Rori and Ronxan, both sired by Palio and very similar in style, were presented by Valentino Vissani and placed first and second in the oldest of the Junior categories. Rori won over her sister solely because of more accentuated muscle development.

The Junior finals made an excellent impression because of the concentration of outstanding individuality, not only among the contestants for the top award, but also among their reserves.



The judge chose Sicilia, the stunning daughter of Erode and presented by Cristian Vissani. This subject placed ahead of Santa from La Bigotta because of greater rump width and more accentuated muscle development. The reserves can be praised for their extraordinary distinction and femininity, as well as their particularly correct legs.

SENIOR FEMALE FINALS

The dam finals were equally superlative, expressing the highest levels among all the entrants, which were uniform in terms of muscle development, trunk length and rump



Milagros – Az. Agr. Vissani Valentino, Senior Reserve Championess

width. Notably, the numerous lactating dams on show also presented well-structured udders.

- Quercia, Mugello's daughter presented by Valentino Vissani, confirmed her worth, emerging as the winner among the young cows in category 6a/B because of superior muscle development and more perpendicular

her hind legs. She beat Quaterna, Erode's daughter presented by Marco Mei; Quaterna's strong point was trunk length.

- Umbrella, the famous daughter of Erode, presented by Danilo Vissani, won the seventh category because of superior trunk length, placing ahead of Quercia, another promising

Sicilia – Az. Agr. Vissani Cristian, Junior Championess

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Santa – Az. Agr. "La Bigotta", Junior Reserve Show Championess

daughter of Erode presented by Valentino Vissani. Many will remember Quercia as last year's Junior champion.

- Nemia, presented by Gaetano Ercoli, and Milagros, presented by Valentino Vissani, waged a tough battle in the eighth category, which was undeniably the most exciting among all the classes in the show. Both of these subjects, sired by the great Erode, have won numerous prizes and have been in the ring since they were calves.

The winner was Nemia, because of her cleaner hocks, although Milagros had greater trunk length.

- Inalata, also sired by Erode and presented by Pierino Staffolani, stood out among the veterans of the ninth category because of her broader transverse diameters and better legs, placing ahead of Fava, the competitive daughter of Nettuno presented by Marco Mei.

The Senior Finals also boasted many outstand-

ing dams and enviable prizewinners. The judge chose Nemia and Milagros, respectively, as Senior Female Champion and Reserve Champion of the 2007 National Show, confirming the values previously expressed in their category by these two marvelous dams.

We must also note Erode's role as a driving force in this event, literally stealing the show and rightfully entering the Hall of Fame of the great sires that the Marchigiana has always represented.



From the right: Senato and Soffio, Junior Champion and Reserve Champion

The lineup of finalists created the perfect setting for awarding the trophy, commemorating Lucio Migni, given to the dam with the best productive career. The trophy was awarded to Ombrella, presented by Danilo Vissani, by ANABIC Director Roberta Guarcini, who affectionately recalled Lucio.

The male categories then came into the ring, with extremely interesting subjects in all age classes, although mainly concentrated in the more adult categories. For the finals, judge Matteo Ridolfi brought together subjects that made for a fast-paced competition. The following bull calves were in the running for the Junior Males finals.



Otello – Az. Agr. Mei di Mei Marco, Senior Champion

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Raggio – Az. Agr. Mei di Mei Marco, Senior Reserve Champion

- Sidro, sired by Lupo and presented by Marco Mei, was the oldest competitor in the Junior finals, and took the top prize because of larger size and muscle development, besting Sandalo, son of Mirino and also presented by Marco Mei.

In the finals, the judge confirmed the verdict of the first category, selecting Senato and Soffio respectively as Junior

- Senato, son of Erode, stood out because of his excellent muscle development, powerful transverse diameters and perpendicular legs. Senato was presented by Marco Mei. His reserve in this category was Soffio, sired by Palio and presented by Valentino Vissani. Soffio showed a virtually identical model that was just slightly shorter in terms of trunk length.

- The most outstanding traits of Scatto, sired by Ponente and presented by Umberto Miliozzi, were fineness, trunk length and correct legs, making this subject the winner of the second category, ahead of Sceicco, the powerful son of Pergolo, presented by Socionovo-Gioacchini.

- Susino, Erode's son presented by Gaetano Ercoli, stood out because of muscle development and trunk length, as well as broad transverse diameters of the rump, placing him ahead of Sceriffo, presented by the Mei ranch, in the third category.

Male Champion and Reserve because of their very similar model, which is modern and viable in terms of function and production potential.



Umbrella – Az. Agr. Vissani Danilo, winner of the Lucio Migni Trophy

SENIOR MALE FINALS

The Senior Male Finals, traditionally an exciting moment for breeders and spectacular because of the size of the competing subjects, saw three very interesting bulls in the ring.

- Raggio, sired by Otello and presented by the Mei ranch owned by Marco Mei, is distinguished by uncommon development and had no trouble dominating the fifth category: there were no contenders that could rival Raggio, making him a shoo-in for the finals.

- Rick, another vigorous son of



On the left, Piero Smargiassi, best breeder of the year, awarded by Paolo Minutelli, President of the Pesaro Breeders' Association

SHOWS



*Azienda Mei di Mei Marco,
best exhibitor of the year*

Otello from the Mei ranch, won the sixth category because of bigger size, greater distinction and a more modern model, ahead of Ralf, the correct son of Lupo from the same herd.

- Otello, the son of Erode presented by the Mei ranch and an old hand in the Marchigiana ring, came in first in the oldest category. His greater dimensions and better balance helped him beat the muscular Pedro di Giunture, sired by Cirano and from the same ranch, which took second place. In turn, Pedro di Giunture showed more correct legs and thus placed ahead of Pioniere, the son of Lirto presented by Piero Staffolani.

Clearly, the finals were effectively a "family feud" for the Mei ranch. The greater maturity shown by Otello, who came into the ring in fabulous shape, garnered this bull the top prize, ahead of his son Raggio, a young sire with enormous potential because of incredible development, trunk length and correct legs.

At the end of this overview of show champions,

we must note that Palio was also presented hors concours. The vigorous son of the great Mirino, owned by Valentino Vissani and the outgoing Senior Champion of the 2006 National Show, continues to stand out because of breed typicality and powerful legs.

This subject, at the height of his career, will soon be leaving Italy to go the Dutch polders: Palio has been purchased by Tom Rijken, an old friend of Marchigiana breeders, who attended the show with his father Rinus and breeder Van Kasteren.



Alessandro Nuti, Best Senior Handler

These marvelous finals, which completed the individual competitions, were followed by a competition based on herd groups, composed of three subjects born on the exhibiting ranch.

This event attracted the competitive representatives of eight ranches to the ring: Socionovo-Gioacchini Rosalba, Vissani Valentino, Vissani Cristian, La Bigotta, Az. Mei di Mei Marco, Az. F.lli Ercoli, Staffolani Pierino and ITAS of Macerata. The group presented by Cristian Vissani won because of the greater uniformity of its three subjects, all of which were award-winners in their individual categories.

When the groups were lined up in the ring, ANABIC gave the Provincial Breeders' Association of Macerata a plaque to



Federica Vissani, Best Junior Handler



Show judge Giannetto Guerrini with his assistant, Romina Bastari

acknowledge its organizational support in staging the event.

ANABIC President Fausto Luchetti gave the memento to Gianluca Ceresani, President of the Provincial Breeders' Association of Macerata, extending his heartfelt gratitude to Dino Mosca, the director of the Association, and the entire staff.

Equally important were the prizes awarded for Best Breeder and Best Exhibitor at the 2007 National Show, given respectively to Piero Smarigiassi and Azienda Mei di Mei Marco, names that need no introduction because of their regu-



lar presence at events involving the Marchigiana breed. The next awards ceremony was for Best Handler, won by Alessandro Nuti from La Bigotta, ahead of Fabio Vissani and Cristian Vissani, two able handlers who, despite their youth, are already longtime show veterans.

Alessandro's success points to the determination and professionalism shown by the La Bigotta ranch, which presented its cattle at the show for the first time.

After this, the two show judges, Giannetto Guerrini and Matteo Ridolfi, who were ably assisted in the ring by Romina Bastari, were also commended. Her presence gave Roberta Guarcini, Director of ANABIC and a speaker during the last afternoon of the show, the opportunity to cite Romina's father Giuseppe, a regular at the shows and an enthusiastic breeder who passed away unexpectedly.



The other show judge, Matteo Ridolfi

The engaging competition of young handlers attracted five promising young people to the ring, listed in order of placement: Federica Vissani, 16; Luca Gallina, 17; Martina Salciccia, 12; Dario Bonifazi, 17; and Stefano Marchianni, 14.

The entire afternoon of awards was overseen by Roberta Guarcini, newly appointed Director of ANABIC. At the end of the event, she thanked the breeders, highlighting the great level achieved by the cattle on show.

Marchigiana breeders were warmly invited to

ANABIC Director Roberta Guarcini during the heifer auction

SHOWS

attend the end-of-testing auctions next June, and were urged to participate actively in selection by reporting and sending the best calves to the Genetic Center.

The Sunday program commenced in the morning with the first auction of young females, a new event that was well received. In fact all nine heifers found buyers. The subjects were from the Socionovo-Gioacchini, Marco Mei, Paolo Zitti, 4M di Miliozzi and Gaetano Ercoli ranches. The sires of the heifers, all of which are potential bull-dams, were Damasco, Pergolo, Lupo, Erode Otello, Pallino and Opapo. The top price, which came under the hammer of Roberta Guarcini, was Sabbia, sired by Otello and presented by Marco Mei. Sabbia was purchased by Fontanella Magic Arabians of Caserta for 3650 euro.

The traditional procession and the awards ceremony for the top-ranking subjects was also held in the morning. Awards were also given for pasture-raised groups from the provinces of Macerata and Ancona, which were ranked as follows:

1st: Az. Conforti Gino

2nd: Az. Conforti Giuliano e Luciano

3rd: Az. Smargiassi Piero

ANABIC, which organized the event jointly with MiPAF, the Provincial Administration of Macerata and the Provincial Breeders' Associations of the Marche region, was also at the show with its own stand, as was CCBI, which was there to promote Marchigiana beef, which is protected by the well-known PGI certification "White Young Bulls of the Central Apennines".

In closing, it must be noted that, compared to previous years, this national show saw a significant increase in the number of cattle. Furthermore, it was marked by the welcome return of the Province of Pesaro after many years of absence. Our hope is that the example set by La Bigotta will soon be followed by breeders in this province as well as elsewhere. The goal was not merely to attend but also to augment the unity of this environment, focusing on the common goal of supporting breed selection and valorization. This cannot be achieved without the determination of breeders, to whom we offer our sincere congratulations. We look forward to seeing everyone next year!

One big happy family!



RANKINGS

RANKINGS FOR THE 23rd NATIONAL MARCHIGIANA SHOW

FEMALES Section

Category: 1F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-------|--------|----------|---------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 90 | IT041990020886 | Santa | Piombo | Ostia | Soc. agr. "la Bigotta" | PS |
| 2 | 91 | IT043990007004 | Star | Erode | Gatta | Az. Mei Di Mei Marco & C. | MC |
| 3 | 87 | IT043990018052 | Siepe | Palio | Milagros | Vissani Valentino | MC |

Category : 2F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------|---------|------------|------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 108 | IT041990020879 | Stella | Limpido | Ivana | Soc. agr. "la Bigotta" | PS |
| 2 | 101 | IT043990011447 | Sfida | Mugello | Porta | Ercoli Gaetano | MC |
| 3 | 106 | IT042990008316 | Sella | Damasco | Passiflora | Zitti Paolo | AN |

Category : 3F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 122 | IT043990010946 | Sicilia | Erode | Ilona | Vissani Cristian | MC |
| 2 | 125 | IT043990016271 | Sabina | Otello | Mandria | Az. Mei Di Mei Marco & C. | MC |
| 3 | 114 | IT043990007729 | Sera | Ponente | Erba | 4m Di Miliozzi Umberto | MC |

Category : 4F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------|--------|---------|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 141 | IT043990014003 | Rocca | Ponzio | Inalata | Staffolani Pierino E Quinto | MC |
| 2 | 139 | IT043990009244 | Rosa | Opapo | Lanza | Az. Mei Di Mei Marco & C. | MC |
| 3 | 138 | IT043000005858 | Sabbia | Erode | Ittica | Vissani Danilo | MC |

Category : 5F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------|---------|----------|------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 150 | IT043990007146 | Ronda | Palio | Milagros | Vissani Valentino | MC |
| 2 | 151 | IT043990010940 | Rina | Mugello | Orbita | Vissani Cristian | MC |
| 3 | 158 | IT041990011528 | Renata | Piombo | Ostia | Soc. agr. "la Bigotta" | PS |

Category : 6aF

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Cl. Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------|------------|
| 1 | 172 | IT043990007141 | Rori | Palio | Osaka | Vissani Valentino | MC |
| 2 | 173 | IT043990007140 | Ronxen | Palio | Odette | Vissani Valentino | MC |
| 3 | 166 | IT043990009220 | Roma | Otello | Furia | Az. Mei Di Mei Marco & C. | MC |

Category : 6bF

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|----------|---------|--------|---------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 190 | IT043990001443 | Quercia | Mugello | Luce | Vissani Valentino | MC |
| 2 | 185 | IT044990005252 | Quaterna | Erode | Omezia | Az. Mei Di Mei Marco & C. | MC |
| 3 | 184 | IT043990001445 | Quendra | Erode | Europa | Vissani Valentino | MC |

Category : 7F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|----------|--------|----------|-------------------|-----|
| 1 | 207 | IT043000024745 | Ombrella | Erode | Lima | Vissani Danilo | MC |
| 2 | 193 | IT043990001441 | Quercia | Erode | Galassia | Vissani Valentino | MC |
| 3 | 206 | IT043000005270 | Ovidia | Erode | Carla | Vissani Cristian | MC |

Category : 8F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|----------|--------|---------|-------------------|-----|
| 1 | 221 | IT043000003708 | Nemia | Erode | Ermanna | Ercoli Gaetano | MC |
| 2 | 224 | IT043000017075 | Milagros | Erode | Cavia | Vissani Valentino | MC |
| 3 | 223 | IT043000017077 | Missy | Erode | Europa | Vissani Valentino | MC |

Category : 9F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 235 | IT016MC008C003 | Inalata | Erode | Nera | Staffolani Pierino E Quinto | MC |
| 2 | 244 | 51MC134560 | Fava | Nettuno | Bira | Az. Mei Di Mei Marco & C. | MC |
| 3 | 243 | 51AN130464 | Festosa | Dolce | Disputa | Smargiassi Piero | AN |

RANKINGS

MALES Section

Category :

1M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 11 | IT051990019136 | Saul | Nurso Di Moglie | Lesnia Di Abbadia | Az. Agr. Fli Vanni A. G. O. | AR |
| 2 | 1 | IT049990004228 | Senatore Di Polledraia | Lio Di Maria Bianca | Quota Di Polledraia | Giannellini Edilio | LI |
| 3 | 14 | IT051990021411 | Stellone Di S.anna | Priamo | Linda Di S.anna | Mencarelli Emilio | AR |

Category :

2M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|---------------|-----------------|--------|----------------------|-----|
| 1 | 27 | IT053990038637 | Saffiro | Priamo | Nada | Salvadori Alessandro | GR |
| 2 | 26 | IT049990003794 | Sim Melograni | Poldo Melograni | Innata | Mecherini Fosco | LI |
| 3 | 20 | IT052990013166 | Sirio | Nurso Di Moglie | Para | Ceccobao Alessandro | SI |

Category :

3M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 36 | IT052990009299 | Sandrillo | Mandrillo Di Polledraia | Mondina | Roghi Luciano | SI |
| 2 | 28 | IT051990019127 | Silos | Nurso Di Moglie | Mila | Az. Agr. Fli Vanni A. G. O. | AR |
| 3 | 32 | IT052990013164 | Simone | Lio Di Maria Bianca | Mirca | Ceccobao Alessandro | SI |

Category :

4M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----|
| 1 | 39 | IT052990010931 | Sirio | Mirto | Calabria | Az. Agr. Pecci Lido | SI |
| 2 | 40 | IT049990003715 | Rabo Del Boccaccio | Mandrillo Di Polledraia | Donatella | Guerrieri Enzo | LI |
| 3 | 41 | IT053990029249 | Rudy | Mesto | Losanna | Dori Stefano | GR |

Category :

5M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|---------|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 52 | IT052990006393 | Rocco | Nesto | Lucia | Luchetti Basilio e Claudio | PG |
| 2 | 53 | IT054990037779 | Rino | Pascia' Della Favorita | Domiziana | Atanasi Aldo, Arnaldo e Mario | PG |
| 3 | 50 | IT052990010922 | Ramires | Gigante | Feta | Az. Agr. Pecci Lido | SI |

Category :

6M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 56 | IT054990032361 | Romito | Oddone | Molletta | Fiorucci Nazareno e F.lli | PG |
| 2 | 54 | IT049990001707 | Ronaldo | Lio Di Maria Bianca | Odelisca Di Polledraia | Marcatili Giampiero | LI |
| 3 | 55 | IT049990002557 | Ribot Melograni | Lienco | Giada | Ferrone Alessandro | LI |

Category :

7M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 60 | IT052990005858 | Quiro | Nurso Di Moglie | Imma | Az. Agr. Pecci Lido | SI |
| 2 | 59 | IT049990001556 | Questore Melograni | Lento Del Boccaccio | Giada | Guerrieri Enzo | LI |
| 3 | 62 | IT051000021494 | Pascia' Delle Fonti | Mandrillo Di Polledraia | Isa | Az. Agr. La Villa Di Mengozzi | PI |

SHOW CHAMPIONS

CHAMPIONS JUNIOR

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|---------|--------|--------|------------------------|-----|
| CAM | 122 | IT043990010946 | Sicilia | Erode | Ilona | Vissani Cristian | MC |
| RIS | 90 | IT041990020886 | Santa | Piombo | Ostia | Soc. agr. "Ia Bigotta" | PS |

CHAMPIONS SENIOR

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|----------|--------|---------|-------------------|-----|
| CAM | 221 | IT043000003708 | Nemia | Erode | Ermanna | Ercoli Gaetano | MC |
| RIS | 224 | IT043000017075 | Milagros | Erode | Cavia | Vissani Valentino | MC |

CHAMPIONS JUNIOR

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------|--------|----------|---------------------------|-----|
| CAM | 25 | IT043990021698 | Senato | Erode | Oleandra | Az. Mei Di Mei Marco & C. | MC |
| RIS | 5 | IT043990021682 | Soffio | Palio | Lirina | Vissani Valentino | MC |

CHAMPIONS SENIOR

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------|-----|
| CAM | 72 | IT043000004875 | Otello | Erode | Buccia | Az. Mei Di Mei Marco & C. | MC |
| RIS | 64 | IT043990009230 | Raggio | Otello | Fina | Az. Mei Di Mei Marco & C. | MC |

di *Massimiliano Valori*
National Marchigiana Breed Expert

The livestock show of Villa Vomano



View of the animals on show

On the occasion of the agricultural event of the Vomano Valley, organized and held from June 1st through 3rd, 2007 in the area adjacent to the Villa Vomano sports field, it was possible to admire the fine livestock specimens of the province of Teramo, called upon to show the potentials of the territory of Abruzzo in the livestock breeding sector.

In addition to the presence of the Italian Holstein and Marchigiana breeds, there were also several specimens of pig and sheep species that contributed to making the livestock area more appealing to the visitors passing by to admire the animals in the stalls and under the shelters.

While the side events were taking place all around, featuring numerous operators of the local farming and handicraft sectors, on Saturday morning the meeting was held; it was organized, among others, with the contribution of the Abruzzo Regional Breeders' Association whose intention, with this initiative, was to focus attention on the opportunities offered by the implementation of short chains in the mar-



keting of quality beef.

The meeting proceedings had not yet come to a close when a tragic event occurred, drastically and completely changing the joyous atmosphere.

The helicopter that was enlivening the event with tourist flights over the fairgrounds had an accident, causing four deaths.

In the ensuing climate, filling everyone's souls with gloom, the events were suspended and it was preferred to skip the institutional activities of evaluating the animals and commenting on them to the public.

In a state of mind that had no resemblance to a minimum of serenity, the expert drew up the classifications of each category, postponing the handing out of trophies and ribbons to the following days, and thus at the offices.

In spite of the unreal situation that came to be created among the breeders, the visitors still present, the organizers, etc., the judging activities made it possible to make the following important considerations:

- evidence of a good level of selection achieved by the animals presented;
- attention paid to the policy lines and guidelines proposed by the national Association;
- improvement of the production characteristics;
- increased attention paid to the care and management of the animals;

- high number of cows with striking maternal characteristics and excellent udder conformation.

Today, even more than on that tragic occasion, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the personnel of the Abruzzo Regional Breeders' Association who, insofar as it was possible in those circumstances, worked hard to ensure the best success of the event. I also wish to congratulate the Marchigiana breeders who were present, for the excellent animals they showed during the event.

di *Giannetto Guerrini*
National Marchigiana Breed Expert

PALIO goes to Holland!



Palio's arrival in Holland

On the occasion of the 23rd National Marchigiana Breed Show held in Macerata this past 1-2-3 June, we received a visit from Tom Rijken, his father Marhin, and Mr. Van Kasteren. The Dutch breeders had come solely to see the livestock on show, and perhaps were interested in purchasing doses of semen, but on seeing the morphological level of the animals shown, and considering the good reputation of the Marchigiana worldwide, our guests wound up their visit to the Marche by buying 12 animals and several hundred doses of semen.

The exported livestock come from the Gaetano Ercoli farm in Morrovalle (Macerata), the Valentino Vissani farm in Ap-pignano (Macerata), and the Paolo Minutel-

li farm in Pesaro.

Among those exported, worthy of note is the bull Palio, from the Valentino Vissani farm, Senior Male Grand Champion at the 2005/2006 national shows.

The Ercoli farm exported a yellow-ribbon show heifer, while the Minutelli farm sent a large number of young grazing farm-reared heifers, daughters of sire Leonetoro, tested at the Genetic Centre of Perugia.



Palio in his new stall

Romagnola 2007: the stork visits the National Show!

The National Show at “Rocca”, marked by the happy arrival of a new calf, saw the Romagnola at its best, in terms of both the number and quality of the cattle on show!

The 20th National Show of the Romagnola breed, held at the cattle market of Rocca San Casciano, in the Apennines near Forlì, from June 8 to 10, saw the participation of 104 cattle out of 128 listed in the catalogue, presented by 21 exhibitors from the provinces of Forlì and Ravenna. Unfortunately, the Bologna Breeders' Association missed the show, as its breeders entered several subjects but did not participate. As was the case for the 2005 show, the venue was the Rocca cattle market, shaded by age-old lindens, making this the perfect place for the show. The event was organized by ANABIC with the sponsorship of MiPAF, along with the Emilia-Romagna Region, the Provincial Breeders' Association of Forlì-Cesena-Rimini, Ravenna and Bologna, the Provincial Boards and the Chambers of Commerce of the provinces involved. “L'altra Romagna”, an association that promotes the area's typical agricultural products, also helped organize the event. The Association would like to extend its special



thanks to the entire staff of the hosting Breeders' Association, and specifically its president Fabrizio Benedetti, director Franco Mercuri and all the inspectors – particularly Sandrino Perini – for the help and precision they have shown yet again in organizing the event. Thanks also go to the Ravenna Breeders' Association, whose director Gian Marco Casadei spent a great deal of time at the show with his inspectors, waiting for the awards ceremony and talking to breeders. Special recognition also goes to Fabrizio Rabiti, national



SHOWS

expert and inspector of the hosting Breeders' Association, for grooming most of the cattle on show, appreciably raising the level of the competition. The number of subjects in the shelters was three more than the last National Show in Reggio Emilia, and the cattle appeared to be of top quality in all classes in both sections. On Saturday night and slightly ahead of schedule, Nespola, sired by Radice and presented by Renato Stoppa, gave birth to a calf that immediately became the mascot of the event and received constant attention from the show's youngest visitors.

Gianluca Giuliani, a national breed expert as well as a passionate breeder who is well known in the



Serpico – Az. Agr. Poggioli di Fiumicello, Junior Champion

in the finals, characterized by the extremely high quality of all the contestants, described below.

The following competed in the Junior finals of the male section:

- Fardini Selvaggio, the correct son of Olmo, owned by Marinello Mascheri, a standout because of trunk length and correct legs.

- Stok della Radice, sired by V.U. Neff, notable because of exceptional balance between structure and muscle development, presented by Renato Stoppa.

- La Viola Sigismondo, sired by La Viola Priamo, a notable entry in the third category because of transversal diameters and the trunk muscle development.

- Serpico, sired by V.U. Navaho and presented by the Poggioli di Fiumicello; Serpico was also the



The award to Stock della Radice from Az. Agr. Stoppa Renato, Junior Reserve Champion

area, handled the judging with great skill and style. He was assisted by Giuseppe Bussi, a recently appointed expert, who managed the ring beautifully and supported the judge perfectly. The sound work done by the judge focused on a modern cattle model in terms of muscle development, trunk length, chest arching, rump lines and width, and a harmonious bearing. The constant and determined quest for these features spelled excellence



La Viola Orto – Az. Agr. La Viola, Senior Champion

SHOWS

*Rocco – Az. Agr. Tassinari Piero,
Senior Reserve Champion*

oldest finalist. This particularly vigorous and distinguished subject won the finals, ahead of the younger Stock della Radice.

The judge explained his choice by emphasizing the champion's greater breed expression, more accentuated muscle development and broader thorax with respect to the reserve champion, which nevertheless showed notable style.

The following bulls competed in the Senior finals, which was equally tough:

- Ville Unite Rob Roy, sired by V.U. Navaho and



cylindrical trunk with a well-arched chest, but also an impeccable rump in terms of width and form. Because of the superiority of these traits, which the judge deemed particularly in line with modern selection orientations, Orto placed ahead of La Viola Orizio, a veteran in the ring and National Junior Champion in 2004.

The judge named Orto di Graziani as Senior Champion, preferring this subject to Rocco, presented by Azienda Prato and Orto's closest competitor, chiefly because of the winner's more mature and representative appearance in these finals, superior muscle development, longer trunk and better rump. The reserve champion is notable for its



Siviglia delle Querce – Az. Agr. Verlicchi Dino and sons, Junior Championess

presented by CTA in Premilcuore, whose strong points were breed expression, strength and a broad rump.

- Rocco, the lively progeny of Boy, presented by Pietro Tassinari, stood out because of typicality, development, excellent bone structure and elegant movements.

- La Viola Orto, sired by La Viola Idone and presented by Gian Michele Graziani, was the oldest bull in these finals; this subject offered not only accentuated muscle development and a long

large size with respect to age, exceptional breed expression, and top-quality bone structure, all of



*Sulmona – Az. Agr. Mariani Giuseppe,
Junior Reserve Championess*

*Primula delle Querce –
Az. Agr. F.lli Daga, Senior Championess*

which bode well for the positive development of this interesting subject.

We must also note the brilliant tone of all the subjects in this final: they were beautifully groomed and were handled well by their owners in the ring.

The Junior Females finals accentuated the consistency of the judge's choices in the various categories, and the competition was nothing short of extraordinary among these six young top-quality promises:

- Selva della Radice, a nine-month-old sired by



muscle development and powerful transverse diameters.

- Rebecca della Radice, also sired by V.U. Neff, presented by Renato Stoppa from Verghereto, and a standout because of distinction, muscle development, rump width and correct legs.

- Ramara della Mezza Cà, sired by V.U. Oz and owned by the Daga Brothers, expressing optimum typicality, size, muscle development and great trunk length.

- Fardini Quieta, daughter of V.U. Naif, with extraordinary typicality, femininity and trunk length; raised by Marinello Mascheri. Fardini Quieta is bound to be remembered by many as the outgoing Junior Championess of the last National



*Montagnola ET – Az. Agr. Mascheri Marinello,
Senior Reserve Championess and winner of the Lucio Migni Trophy*

V.U. Neff and presented by Renato Stoppa, distinguished by breed expression, proportions, muscle development and solid legs.

- Siviglia delle Querce, sired by V.U. Imbatibile and presented by Dino Verlicchi, with a number of strong points: general correctness, structural strength, muscle development and rump diameters.

- Sulmona, sired by V.U. New York and presented by Giuseppe Mariani; interesting in terms of balance between size, fineness,

Show in Reggio Emilia.



*Best Herd Group,
Az. Agr. Mezza Cà F.lli Daga*

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Az. Agr. La Viola di Gianmichele Graziani, Best Breeder and Exhibitor of 2007, awarded by ANABIC President Fausto Luchetti

This brief presentation offers an idea of the values expressed in the heifer finals, unquestionably one of the highlights of this National Show. The winner was Siviglia delle Querce, which bested Sulmona, whose model was virtually identical to that of the championess. However, Siviglia delle Querce won because of her wider forequarters, more powerful chest and shoulder joints, a cleaner rump line at the tail and superior bone structure. Nevertheless, the reserve champion showed equally great distinction.

In the last finals of the show – Senior Females – the ring was again filled with exceptional and highly competitive subjects:

- Ville Unite Querquedula, primipara, sired by V.U. Neff and presented by Pietro Tassinari; this young dam showed excellent typicality, distinction and trunk length.

- Primula delle Querce, sired by V.U. Ivanhoe and the winner of the 3- to 5-year category, presented by the Daga brothers; Primula, powerful yet feminine, stood out in this category because of her extremely long trunk, superior rump diameters, accentuated muscle development, correct legs and very elegant bearing.

- Montagnola ET, sired by Boy and bred by Marinello Mascheri, won in the category of 5- to 8-year-old dams because of her superior strength, diameters and muscle development. This was one of the toughest categories of the 2007 show,

in which Marina, the well-known progeny of Ebro, presented by Giuseppe Mariani, took second place

- Cleopatra, sired by Azzurro and presented by Pietro Tassinari, a veteran in the ring; despite her age – 14 years – she stood out for her gigantism, notable typicality and trunk length in the “over 8” category, in which she placed ahead of V.U. Letizia, likewise the vigorous progeny of Azzurro presented by the Daga brothers.

The judge, Gianluca Giuliani, chose Primula ahead of Montagnola, sired by Boy and presented by Mascheri, for her superior femininity and distinction, longer trunk, better rump and more correct angle of the rear legs. Like the Junior Championess, the Senior Championess also bears the suffix “delle Querce”, referring to the herd of Dino Verlicchi, whom we congratulate for these noteworthy results. The Reserve Championess boasts a more powerful thorax and more accentuated transverse diameters. This dam, which has calved five times with a mean interval between calvings of 364 days, also won the trophy commemorating Lucio Migni and awarded to the dam with the best productive career. I personally awarded this prize, which holds special meaning for the staff at ANABIC, to Marinello Mascheri. The individual competitions were followed by those reserved for herd groups, composed of subjects born on the exhibiting ranch. This competition involved six beautiful representatives presented in the ring by Mascheri, Stoppa, Mariani, Donati, Graziani and the Daga brothers. The latter trio of subjects placed first, thanks to the greater uniformity of the three heifers composing it. With the groups lined up as a perfect backdrop,



Stefano Donati, Best Senior Handler



Michele Daga, Best Junior Handler

SHOWS



Show judge Gianluca Giuliani with his assistant, Giuseppe Bussi

the trophies for Best Breeder and Best Exhibitor at the 2007 National Show were also rightfully awarded to Michele Graziani's La Viola ranch. The lineup of groups also offered Roberta Guarcini, as speaker, the chance to illustrate for the audience some of the most important aspects of each of the breeders in the ring. Roberta also thanked the Irish and Australian delegations that came to Rocca San Casciano for the show, confirming the international interest that the Romagnola breed has attracted for decades. The awards ceremonies scheduled for the closing day, Sunday, acknowledged young and senior handlers, who deserve a round of applause for their skill in the ring showing their respective subjects.

There were also two very young but very determined competitors in the running. First place went to fourteen-year-old Michele Daga, ahead of ten-year-old Marino Mascheri, the grandson of Marinello Mascheri.

All the competing senior handlers demonstrated their skill, promoting the best of this fundamental aspect of the shows. After completing his work, the judge announced the winner, Stefano Donati, who placed ahead of Mara Graziani and Miriam Daga, respectively, two worthy competitors who took turns handling their subjects throughout the show.

After the handlers, an award was given to Gianluca Giuliani, the show judge, who honored his commitment with great consistency in his

choices and in the quality of his comments. The judge was assisted in the ring by Giuseppe Bussi, who debuted in this role at the National Show. Following the awards ceremony, which attracted numerous authorities, Fausto Luchetti, President of ANABIC, spoke to the breeders to congratulate them on the cattle exhibited at this National Show, emphasizing the need for all areas of the livestock system of our breeds to work together to face the difficult challenges that await this field in Italy in the immediate future. Luchetti gave the president of the hosting Provincial Breeders' Association, Fabrizio Benedetti, a plaque as a token of esteem for the organizational support for the show. He then went on to thank not only the breeders, but also the technical staff from the Provincial Breeders' Associations and ANABIC for their contribution. ANABIC also gave a plaque to Sandrino Perini, the dynamic and "omnipresent" head inspector of the Forlì-Cesena and Rimini Provincial Breeders' Associations. Gian Marco Casadei, director of the Emilia-Romagna Regional Breeders' Association and of the Ravenna Provincial Breeders' Association, also greeted the audience, reminding everyone of the rendezvous in Reggio Emilia for the 2008 National Show.

ANABIC Director Roberta Guarcini then gave a commemorative plaque to Rita Monti, Mayor of Rocca San Casciano, who noted that she would willingly host the National Show again in two years. Monti praised the record attendance at Rocca in terms of exhibited cattle and offered her congratulations for the "arrival of the stork" the previous evening.

In this relaxing atmosphere, the ceremony continued with the award of a plaque to each of the breeders to commemorate their participation. Group photos and a final toast cheerfully brought this successful show to a close. The show presented the breed at its best and allowed breeders to compare notes in a serene climate that was unquestionably the most pleasant aspect of the 2007 Romagnola National Show.

The technical staff and breeders at the show



RANKINGS

RANKINGS FOR THE 23rd NATIONAL ROMAGNOLA SHOW

FEMALES Section

Category: 1F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 42 | IT040990027437 | Selva Della Radice | Ville Unite Neff | Gandolera | Stoppa Renato & C. S. S. | FC |
| 2 | 39 | IT040990021799 | Sagra Della Mezza Ca'Quadro | | Gegia | Az.agr. Mezza Ca'-Daga A. E F.FC | |
| 3 | 37 | IT039990011278 | La Fattoria Sbarazzina Piro | | Nuvola | Donati Emilio | RA |

Category : 2F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------|------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 43 | IT039990009569 | Siviglia Delle Querce | V. Unite Imbattibile | Nora | Verlicchi Dino E Figli | RA |
| 2 | 49 | IT039990012044 | Sonia | Ville Unite New York | Olga | Barnabe' Giuseppe e Serafino | RA |
| 3 | 50 | IT039990012043 | Simona | Quotto | Pia | Barnabe' Giuseppe e Serafino | RA |

Category : 3F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 59 | IT040990018581 | Sulmona | Ville Unite New York | Dionira | Az. Agr. Mariani S.s. | FC |
| 2 | 68 | IT040990018582 | Soraya | Boy | Perla | Az. Agr. Mariani S.s. | FC |
| 3 | 69 | IT040990021773 | Sissi Della Mezza Ca' | Ville Unite Oz | Ville Unite Pavona | Az.agr. Mezza Ca'-Daga A. E F. | FC |

Category : 4F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 75 | IT040990017618 | Rebecca Della Radice | Ville Unite Neff | Ponza Della Radice | Stoppa Renato & C. S. S. | FC |
| 2 | 73 | IT040990017251 | Fardini Simona | Ville Unite Manso | Fardini Irana | Mascheri Marinello & C.s.s. | FC |
| 3 | 72 | IT039990009075 | La Viola Sarda | Nembokid | La Viola Olga | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA |

Category : 5F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 84 | IT040990010213 | Ramara Della Mezza Ca' | Ville Unite Oz | Amara | Az.agr. Mezza Ca'-Daga A. E F.FC | |
| 2 | 78 | IT040990018578 | Ruanda | Ville Unite Orione | Lana | Az. Agr. Mariani S.s. | FC |
| 3 | 77 | IT040990017611 | Ramona Della Radice | Ville Unite Ivanhoe | Ines | Stoppa Renato & C. S. S. | FC |

Category : 6aF

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Cl. | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|-----|-----|
| 1 | 98 | IT040990006840 | Fardini Quieta | Ville Unite Naif | Fardini Ilona | Mascheri Marinello & C.s.s. | FC | FC |
| 2 | 94 | IT039990005114 | La Viola Rosita | La Viola Istrice | Eralda | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA | RA |
| 3 | 93 | IT040990006881 | Fardini Rondinella | Olmo Della Radice | Brigida | Mascheri Marinello & C.s.s. | FC | FC |

Category : 6bF

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 99 | IT039990003769 | Ville Unite Querquedula | Ville Unite Neff | Ville Unite Fiaba | Az. Agr. Prato Di Tassinari P. | FC |
| 2 | 97 | IT040000022885 | Renata | Ville Unite Navaho | Aurora | Dell'amore Lauro | FC |
| 3 | / | | | | | | |

Category : 7F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 103 | IT039333340356 | Primula delle Querce | Ville Unite Ivanhoe | Moira | Az.agr. Daga F.Ili Ss -Daga G. | FC |
| 2 | 102 | IT039666673748 | Ville Unite Pavona | Ville Unite Navaho | Ville Unite Noosa | Az.agr. Daga F.Ili Ss -Daga G. | FC |
| 3 | 100 | IT039990002540 | Pasquina | La Viola Mambo | La Viola Monza | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA |

Category : 8F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 112 | IT040500005761 | Montagnola Et | Boy | Isona | Mascheri Marinello & C.s.s. | FC |
| 2 | 111 | IT040000001258 | Marina | Ebro | Dionira | Az. Agr. Mariani S.s. | FC |
| 3 | 110 | IT039666669855 | Ville Unite Mariposa | V. Unite Imbattibile | Bianca | Az.agr. Daga F.Ili Ss -Daga G. | FC |

Category : 9F

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|---------------------|---------|-------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 119 | 54RA108730 | Cleopatra | Azzurro | Farona | Az. Agr. Prato Di Tassinari P. | FC |
| 2 | 115 | IT039666667263 | Ville Unite Letizia | Azzurro | Cesarina li | Az.agr. Daga F.Ili Ss -Daga G. | FC |
| 3 | 117 | IT014RA121C049 | La Viola Ilaria | Pupo | Bionda | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA |

RANKINGS

MALES Section

Category : 1M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 4 | IT040990017297 | Fardini Selvaggio | Olmo Della Radice | Fardini Nea | Mascheri Marinello & C.s.s. | FC |
| 2 | 1 | IT040990017311 | Fardini Suevo | Ville Unite Manso | Fardini Moretta | Mascheri Marinello & C.s.s. | FC |
| 3 | 3 | IT039990011937 | La Viola Silvestro | La Viola Orizio | La Viola Isotta | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA |

Category : 2M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 8 | IT040990017644 | Stok Della Radice | Ville Unite Neff | Nuvola Della Radice | Stoppa Renato & C. S. S. | FC |
| 2 | / | | | | | | |
| 3 | / | | | | | | |

Category : 3M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-------------------------------|--------|------------------|------------------|-----|
| 1 | 12 | IT039990009091 | La Viola Sigismondo | | La Viola Priamo | La Viola Paolina | La |
| | | | Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | | | | |
| 2 | 11 | IT099990000534 | Salvatore | Oman | Fardini Ondolona | Drudi Giuseppe | RN |
| 3 | / | | | | | | |

Category : 4M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 15 | IT039990008550 | Serpico | Ville Unite Navaho | Ville Unite Nuva | Az. Agr. Poggioli Fiumicello M | FC |
| 2 | 16 | IT039990009073 | La Viola Sisko | La Viola Priamo | La Viola Piera | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA |
| 3 | 13 | IT040990010664 | Solare | Petrarca | Nunzia | Mancini Giovanni Giordano Gnan | FC |

Category : 5M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 20 | IT039990006918 | Ville Unite Robroy | Ville Unite Navaho | Ville Unite Norrsken | C.t.a. Territorio Ambiente | FC |
| 2 | 21 | IT039990007983 | La Viola Ringo | La Viola Mambo | La Viola Nivea | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA |
| 3 | 18 | IT040990013276 | Radamante | Ville Unite N.Y. | Odalisca | Matassoni Paride | FC |

Category : 6M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 24 | IT039990008549 | Rocco | Boy | Onelia | Az. Agr. Prato Di Tassinari P. | FC |
| 2 | 23 | IT040990005045 | Regno Della Radice | V. Unite Imbattibile | Nigeria Della Radice | Stoppa Renato & C. S. S. | FC |
| 3 | 28 | IT039990005204 | La Viola Quadro | La Viola Liuto | La Viola Linda | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA |

Category : 7M

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | 33 | IT039666672301 | La Viola Orto | La Viola Idone | Baronessa | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA |
| 2 | 32 | IT039666674403 | La Viola Orizio | La Viola Istrice | Folaga | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA |
| 3 | 34 | IT099000501472 | Oman | Elker | Fineanno | Drudi Giuseppe | RN |

SHOW CHAMPIONS

JUNIOR CHAMPIONS

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------|------------------------|-----|
| CAM | 43 | IT039990009569 | Siviglia Delle Querce | V. Unite Imbattibile | Nora | Verlicchi Dino E Figli | RA |
| RIS | 59 | IT040990018581 | Sulmona | Ville Unite New York | Dionira | Az. Agr. Mariani S.s. | FC |

SENIOR CHAMPIONS

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------|--------------------------------|-----|
| CAM | 103 | IT039333340356 | Primula delle Querce" | Ville Unite Ivanhoe | Moira | Az.agr. Daga F.Ili Ss -Daga G. | FC |
| RIS | 112 | IT040500005761 | Montagnola Et | Boy | Isona | Mascheri Marinello & C.s.s. | FC |

JUNIOR CHAMPIONS

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----|
| CAM | 15 | IT039990008550 | Serpico | Ville Unite Navaho | Ville Unite Nuva | Az. Agr. Poggioli Fiumicello M | FC |
| RIS | 8 | IT040990017644 | Stok Della Radice | Ville Unite Neff | Nuvola Della Radice | Stoppa Renato & C. S. S. | FC |

SENIOR CHAMPIONS

| Cl. | No. | Reg. No. | Name | Father | Mother | Shower | Pv. |
|-----|-----|----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----|
| CAM | 33 | IT039666672301 | La Viola Orto | La Viola Idone | Baronessa | La Viola S.r.l. Di Graziani G.m. | RA |
| RIS | 24 | IT039990008549 | Rocco | Boy | Onelia | Az. Agr. Prato Di Tassinari P. | FC |



MARCHIGIANA BREED MEETING IN PONTECORVO

by *Matteo Ridolfi*
Morphological Evaluation Office

This past 28 June the farm of the Vona brothers, located in the hamlet S. Oliva a Pontecorvo, in the Frosinone area, held a meeting organized by the ANABIC in collaboration with the Frosinone Provincial Breeders' Association, and reserved for Marchigiana breeders. The meeting, held initially at the host farm, boasted the participation of around 50 breeders coming from various parts of the province of Frosinone. The large number of Marchigiana breeder representatives confirms how this breed, which is an integral and historic part of the province's cattle-breeding sector, is the subject of growing interest. The meeting was opened with greetings to the participating breeders expressed by Pietro Raimondi, director of the Frosinone Provincial Breeders' Association, who thanked the host farm and inspector Pompeo Ripa for the organizational support of an event whose purpose was to further and promote knowledge of the Marchigiana breed and of the related selection activity with regard to the increasingly large number of breeders, which has led to a definite increase in the number of animals registered in this province. The Marchigiana, said Mr. Raimondi, made its first appearance in this province during the post-WWII period, after the war had practically wiped out the local cattle. For many years, the supplying of sires from the best breeding farms of the provinces of Ancona and Macerata was massive, and it continues, albeit to a lesser extent, even today. The next greetings came from Fausto Luchetti, Association President, who stated that it had long been his intention to further his knowledge of the breeding situation of the Frosinone area, a province in which open-pasture rearing is predominant, and also for this reason very representative of the type of breeding farm that characterizes the future of our breeds. With these premises, the selection will have to take into account the breeders' needs, and "build" livestock more in keeping with extensive environments, privileging traits such as, for example, the legs and hooves, which play a decisive role also in the functional longevity of dams. The cattle of

the Vona farm, which also breeds Holsteins and which uses the grazing farm system for the Marchigiana, lent themselves perfectly to the presentation and commenting of the breed standard and selection aims by Matteo Ridolfi, head of the ANABIC Morphological Evaluation Office. At the end of this first part, the guests moved on to the "la Bersagliera" tourist farm at Castrocielo, a picturesque little hilltop town, where the technical part of the meeting was held. Matteo Ridolfi explained the linear morphological evaluation procedures and objectives, as well as the selection aims concerning the morphological indices and Programmed Matings service.

The following presentation was made by Fiorella Sbarra, of the ANABIC Genetic Evaluation Office, who explained in detail the genetic centre's operations regarding the entrance of the animals, health regulation requirements, and performance test results in terms of genetic improvement achieved by the Marchigiana breed over the past 10 years. Ms. Sbarra then illustrated the makeup of the bull and cow selection indices, the aspects regarding the morphological component of the cow selection index, and the criteria underlying the mating plans. At the end of the event, ANABIC President Fausto Luchetti expressed his satisfaction for the successful outcome of the meeting and, thanking the local Provincial Breeders' Association for its organizational support, expressed confidence that the Marchigiana breed offers a valid economic opportunity for the Frosinone area cattle-breeding sector, pointing out the importance of Article 69, an EEC regulation about which the ANABIC is informing breeders' organizations so that the disbursement of grants to those implementing the cow-calf line can be privileged. The closing luncheon provided the opportunity for socializing and exchanging experiences, giving us the chance to further our familiarity with numerous impassioned breeders who, we hope, will be increasingly involved in supporting the selection of the breed.

di *Gaia Martuscelli*

Genetic Evaluation Office, Research and Development

THE FIRST AUCTION OF CHIANINA HEIFERS AT PONTE PRESALE

In the splendid scenery of the Apennine Mountains, accompanied by a wonderfully sunny day, on Tuesday, 3 July the 1st auction of Chianina heifers was held at the Selection and Multiplication Centre for the female line. The event, organized by the Provincial Breeders' Association of Arezzo, in collaboration with ANABIC, saw the participation of numerous breeders coming from Tuscany, Umbria, Liguria, Lazio, Emilia Romagna, and the Marches. A number of Authorities were also present: Susanna Cenni, Agriculture Commissioner of the Region of Tuscany; Claudio Del Re, a manager of the Agricultural and Livestock Productions sector of the Region of Tuscany; Fausto Luchetti and Roberta Guarcini, ANABIC President and Director, Fabrizio Giovannini of the Mountain Community; Luisa Rubechi and Claudio Bovo, President and Director of the Provincial Association of Arezzo, and Giancarlo Renzi, Mayor of Sestino and President of the "Città della Chianina" (City of the Chianina) Association. The auction was opened with the usual greetings pronounced by Luisa Rubechi and Fausto Luchetti, who commented positively on the sizable participation of the sector



Panorama of the Heifer Centre structures at Ponte Presale

breeders and technicians, and stressed the importance of the heifer centre for the purposes of genetic improvement and health guarantees offered with regard to IBR.

The heifers presented at the auction, of between 20 and 22 months of age, are the result of a careful selection, made by breed experts, out of a very large population, and they had undergone rigorous aptitude trials for over six months. Of the 44 heifers admitted for the test, only 34 passed the morphological test, 33 of which were auctioned off by the evergreen auctioneer Romano Aliffi. With an average score of 83.5 points, inseminated according to mating plans

The Authorities present



AUCTIONS



The public

prepared by the ANABIC and diagnosed as pregnant by veterinarian Dr. Piero Boni, the heifers took turns in the arena with their usual liveliness, seeking to attract the attention of an audience that was a little low on enthusiasm. It was necessary to arrive as far as heifer no. 16 owned by Orlando Favilli of Livorno to enliven the spirit; the heifer Rosina, evaluated at 86 points, boasts in her pedigree 3 very distin-

guished cows, with 85 points each, and two bulls that have certainly no need of presentation, Dazzo and Falto del Chiostro. Inseminated with Eugenio, the pregnancy confirmation diagnosed the presence of a female foetus, which leads us to believe that in the future we might have a potential top cow from this mating. The winner of this splendid animal was Marco Benetello of Grosseto, who managed to win her with a bid of 3,900 euro. A breeder from Florence, Adriano Borgioli, won the purchase of heifer no. 22, from the Luciano Nencini farm of Pisa, with a bid that resulted in the second best price, 3,400 euro. Rina dello Zoccolo, a heifer with 86 points, a daughter of Lio di Maria Bianca and Dazzo in her maternal line, obtained the "very good" qualification for her breed traits, muscle development, and dimensions; her mating with Eugenio was very much appreciated for the calving ease and for the exaltation of the breed characteristics.



We would like to mention that the starting price was 3,000 euro for the heifers for which semen sexing was possible, 2,700 euro for those confirmed pregnant, and 2,200 euro for the only 3 that were not pregnant. The average auction price was 3,140 euro.

At the end of the auction, Ms. Cenni took the floor to highlight the great deal of work the Region is carrying out to support the livestock raising sector, but especially the policies for quality and territorial coverage, of which the Chianina has been the unopposed queen in recent years.

This magnificent get-together could not possibly end without a delicious luncheon, based on Chianina beef, to set the seal on the organoleptic characteristics of a meat of excellent quality. The appointment is for next year, with a second cycle of heifers, which we hope will be able to involve an even larger number of breeders.

One of the heifers auctioned

AUCTIONS

di **Antonio Vagniluca**
Heard of ANABIC Genetic Centres

In the splendid setting of the Centre in Spergolaia (Grosseto), the auction of Maremmana bull calves was held at the Alberese Bull Calf Selection Centre on 5 July.

Fourteen sires, approved out of the 19 that made up the 10th cycle, and which without a doubt was the best group tested up to today, received the approval of the public present and the breeders who participated. In fact, it should be pointed out that the lots on the block had excellent credentials: 10 animals with a morphological evaluation over 85 points, four with 87 points, and one with 88 points; weight gains close to an average of 1,600 g/day, exceptional figures that characterize the Maremmana and indicate, in part, the potentials this breed holds.

Unfortunately, only some of the bulls met with an adequate success with the public present, who lost the chance to introduce some phenomenal animals into their farms.

The proceedings were opened by ANABIC President Fausto Luchetti who, after a brief message of greeting, turned the floor over to Roberta Guarcini, ANABIC Director and “official auctioneer”, who conducted an auction that was rather low-key because of the small audience, in spite of our efforts to adequately publicize the annual event that marks the sale of bull calves in Alberese.

In any case, at the end of the day, seven of the fourteen bull calves presented had been sold. Among these, the auction’s top price went to “Sultano”, a vigorous son of Pastore, presented by the Regional Farm of Alberese, evaluated with 87 points and an ADG of 1,491 g/day, who was sold for € 2,700 to the Torrecchia di Latina Estate.

Another good performance was that of “Sero”, an extremely valid son of Olimpico from the Castelporziano Estate, the only one of the lot to have received a score of 88 points in the morphological evaluation and

One of the bull calves on the auction block at the Alberese genetic centre



AUCTIONS



ANABIC President Fausto Luchetti and Director Roberta Guarcini during the auction

tention to deal with the problem to find an adequate solution, which gives the breed greater visibility and the tested sires an appreciation worthy of this splendid breed.

During the following week, on the other hand, a large crowd was present for the auction of Podolica bull calves that was held at the Selection Centre of Laurenzana (Potenza) on 10 July. Numerous breeders were present, crowding the Centre's structures from the early hours of the morning and observing carefully the approved animals, which would have become the protagonists of staggering prices only a couple of hours later. Of the nine animals presented on

with an ADG of 1,560 g/day; he was purchased by the Agricultural University of Tarquinia for € 2,500.

Worthy of note is also the winning of the bull calf "Sandro" who, presented by Società Vitivinicola Italiana (formerly SMOM), kept pace with the previous animals, bringing in a price of € 2,400 and being won by the La Trappola farm of Grosseto. Extremely interesting for his dimensions and muscle development, this animal made a good impression in the ring, as did his rivals who came afterwards but met with only partial success in the auction.

In spite of the promotional work done by the Provincial Associations and the initiatives promoted by the National Association, like for example the Meeting held in Tarquinia on the occasion of the National Show, the full involvement of the breeders has not yet been reached. It is our in-

The image shows the cover of the ANABIC Herd-Book. The top section features the ANABIC logo in white on an orange background, a silhouette of a bull with the Italian flag colors, and the text "Associazione Nazionale Allevatori Bovini Italiani da Carne". Below this is a row of small images of various cattle breeds. The main title "HERD-BOOK" is in large white letters on an orange background. In the center is a circular logo with "LGN" in the middle and "ASS. NAZ. ALL. BOV. ITAL. DA CARNE" around the perimeter. Below the logo, the text reads: "PEDIGREE, MORPHOLOGICAL, PRODUCTION AND REPRODUCTION INFORMATION ON THE CATTLE INVOLVED IN SELECTION ACTIVITIES FOR THE DETERMINATION OF THE GENETIC VALUE OF BULLS AND COWS AND GENEALOGICAL CERTIFICATION". At the bottom, contact information is provided: "ANABIC • 06132 S.MARTINO IN COLLE • PERUGIA (ITALY) • TEL. 075.607.00.11 • FAX 075.607.598 www.anabic.it • anabic@anic.it".

the auction block, seven came from farms in the Potenza area, and two from the province of Cosenza.

Opening the event with greetings to those present was the President of the Provincial Breeders' Association of Potenza, Rocco Battaglino, followed by the greetings expressed by Nunzio di Mauro, the President of the Provincial Association of Matera. The floor was then given to ANABIC President Fausto Luchetti, who stressed the Centre's importance, expressing his enthusiasm over such a large audience and emphasizing the extremely high quality of the approved animals.

The next speaker was Giuseppe Dagrosa, a regional official who, representing the Regional Agriculture Commissioner, confirmed the willingness of the Region of Basilicata to support the region's livestock breeding sector. In fact, worthy of note is the importance of the grant made possible to local breeders by the Regional Administration of Basilicata for the purchase of sires tested at the Selection Centre.

Unfortunately, such an initiative, which has continued to be renewed since 2001, has not been imitated in other regions like Calabria and Apulia, which are also important

Podolica breeding zones. Indeed, for breeders, the possibility to receive such an important grant would be a useful incentive for the spread of the genetic improvement of the breed throughout the entire breeding area.

After these speakers, the floor was given to Roberta Guarcini, ANABIC Director and the auctioneer of this impassioned auction, which registered knockdown prices never reached before.

All the lots presented were sold and, among these, it should be pointed out that two animals reached the price of € 4,000, while "Silvano", an extremely vigorous and correct animal from the Canio Perrone farm in Potenza, was won for the amazing figure of € 4,150 by the Sa.Ma.Do.Gi. farm of Bari. It is evident that, considering the genetic value of all the sires presented, and in particular for these that achieved record prices, the interest of numerous breeders is starting to focus on, and their confidence is rising in, the work done by the ANABIC Selection Centre. This is even more evident considering that the auction starting price was relatively low, i.e. € 1,600. The first animal presented was "Seneca", an interesting son of Medi evaluated with a score of 85 points and an ADG of 1,471 g/da

A moment during the auction at the Laurenzana genetic centre



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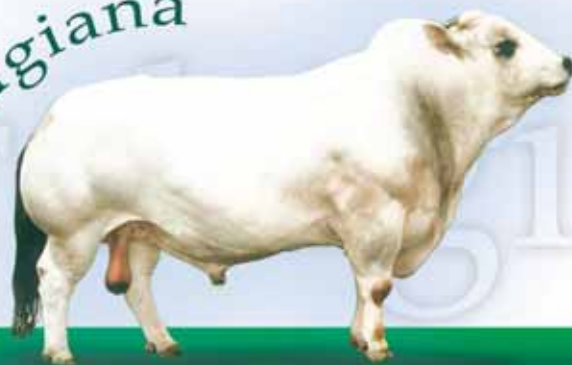
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