

11000 GNS TOP BID SMASHES BREED RECORD FOR ATTWELL AYRSHIRES AT BEESTON

A huge crowd of pedigree and commercial milk producers and heifer rearers were out in force from all over the UK for the second and final sale to disperse the entire ATTWELL Herd of Pedigree Ayrshire and crossbred dairy cattle on behalf of Andrew Gough trading as WH Slater Farms Ltd, a name synonymous with top Ayrshire cattle for many generations. Buyers were recorded from Scotland to Cornwall and just about every county in between but the highest proportion went to Staffordshire, Herefordshire and West Wales, the latter taking over sixty head.

The first sale took place last autumn when the summer and autumn calvers were sold on a fast trade to a great audience then, but the crowd and prices at this second sale outstripped those achieved last autumn by some way and to add to the mix two breed records were broken. It was fitting for all concerned that at this their final sale the Slater's should yet again be involved with a record breaking deal; it was fifteen years ago at one of the Ayrshire Conference's sale that they broke the breed record price for an Ayrshire when they purchased the renowned cow Upper Woodhead Apricot 3rd for 10000 gns in 1994. Now at this sale they are on the other side as vendors and have broken the record again selling Attwell Spottie 13th (VG89) for 11000 gns to Blaise Tomlinson for his Sandyford Herd based at Nanpantan, Nr.Leicester . This wonderful young cow was dry and a month off calving her third calf to Yellow Briar Journalist.

The Spottie family were in great demand; an August 07 daughter of Spottie 13th. Spottie 20th, sold for 4200 gns to Pam and Dawn Coryn of Cornwall. This maiden heifer is a daughter of Green Lane World First. A fresh milking heifer, Spottie 17th, by Brieryside High Profile made 3800 gns to Philip Williams of Haverfordwest is a sister to the record breaker whilst two other sisters sold for 2300 gns and 2100 gns each. The higher of these two prices was the yearling heifer Spottie 21st by Twemlow Major Threat which sold to J Whiteford & Sons, Middle, Carlisle with the other being Spottie 8th (H1-86), by Viapax Leader Red who was due with her fifth calf in May and she sold to Bostock Bros of Biddulph. Spottie 8th's fresh 3rd calf daughter by Attwell Admiral sold for 3500 gns to DB & CM Walters of Carmarthen. Nine members of the Spottie family averaged £3925.83.

Another record were broken later in the sale when the very smart August calving heifer Attwell Amanda 7th, a daughter of McCornick Nelson with two Excellent classified dams sold for 6200 gns to Philip Williams, Haverfordwest. This was the highest ever price for a Ayrshire in-calf heifer. Other leading priced animals included Attwell Lady Marina 2nd ET, a daughter of McCornick Nelson, due with her third calf to Attwell Amadeus in April; she sold to Stephen Oultram of Ewloe, Deeside for 2750 gns. Also Acton BC Punch 4th ET, a July 08 daughter of Carnell Bright Crown sold to Philip Jeffries of Berriew, Welshpool.

The sale also included a large number of cross bred cows and heifers in all age groups, mostly Jersey cross Ayrshires, but some Brown Swiss, Shorthorn, MRI and Swedish RED & White. The top price crossbred milker was 2050 gns for a fresh Ayrshire X Jersey second calver selling to Ben Elkin of Stone, in-calf heifers sold to 1850 gns for a Brown Swiss cross selling to GA Bartlam of Uttoxeter.

AVERAGES:

**124 COWS AND MILKING HEIFERS £1775.43 (inc 31 Baby Heifer calves at £373.94);
22 In-Calf Heifers (Mostly Summer calvers) £1653.75; 2 Served Heifers £840.00; 84
Maiden Heifers £876.13; 2 Bulls £1496.25; 1 Bull Calf £420.00. OVERALL – 235 HEAD
£1426.48**

Wright Manley of Beeston Castle Auction, Cheshire were the Auctioneers in conjunction with Gwilym Richards.