

2,000GNS TOP PRICE AT WINCHCOMBE ORGANIC DAIRY SALE

2,000 guineas was the top price at the dispersal sale of Michael and Jill Abbatt's herd of Holstein Friesians and Brown Swiss organic dairy cattle at their farm 900 feet up high above Winchcombe, near Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, where buyers had travelled to from Cornwall, West Wales and Scotland.

The top price was paid for a Holstein Friesian second calver which was four weeks calved giving 34.7kgs daily. The purchasers were R J House & Son of Wincanton, Somerset. They also purchased another similarly calved second calver for 1,900gns.

A Holstein Friesian six weeks into her third lactation sold for 1,920gns.

Holstein Friesian served heifers sold to 1,650gns, yearling heifers to 710gns and heifer calves to 570gns.

The leading price for a Brown Swiss was 1,700gns paid twice for a heifer and a second calver dried off for calving their next calves next month.

Brown Swiss in-calf heifers due in October sold to 1,600gns twice, maiden heifers to 780gns and heifer calves to 700gns.

The 20/20 milking parlour sold for £12,000 and the 12,000 litre bulk tank for £9,800.

Averages:

Holstein Friesians

73 milking cows and heifers £1,518
(including 21 heifer calves to £387)
18 in-calf heifers £1,533
15 maiden heifers £624

Brown Swiss

38 milking cows and heifers £1,480
(including 13 heifer calves at £399)
3 in-calf heifers £1,512
7 maiden heifers £545

Auctioneers:

GWILYM RICHARDS