

Today is _____, _____ the _____. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about _____ when we return

GENOMIC TESTING HELPS HOLSTEIN BREEDERS BREED THE COWS THEY WANT

**Audio with Lindsey Worden (WAR-dehn), Holstein Association USA
Executive Director of Holstein Genetic Services**

Genomic testing is setting the Holstein breed apart—not only in numbers, but also through emphasis on breeding healthier dairy cattle.

Genomic testing is helping more and more Holstein producers breed the cows they want. More than half of Holstein pregnancies in the U.S. in the last year have been from genomic-tested bulls. In the overall Holstein population, 35 percent of animals identified in 2016 — or more than 400,000 Holsteins-- were genomic tested. That's more than any other dairy breed in the world.

So what's next for genomics and the Holstein breed? Lindsey Worden (WAR-dehn), Executive Director of Holstein Genetic Services for Holstein Association USA, shares this...tape

Cut #1 :16 OC:...“evaluation system.”

Genomics has shifted breeders' focus from proven bulls to young sires. Although older bulls are still valuable in the industry, Worden says that young bulls have much better information available...tape

Cut #2 :14 OC:...“genetic progress.”

That genetic progress is accelerating at an astonishing rate. Compared to other dairy breeds, the enormous Holstein base population has more than two and half times more animals compared to all other dairy breeds combined...tape

Cut #3 :12 OC:...“other breed.”

Genomics can be a helpful tool in selecting which heifers a dairy producer might sell, or for herds that utilize in-vitro fertilization or embryo transfer to identify donor or recipient cows. If a dairy producer has a set of full siblings, genomics are a great tool for sorting through those animals to select the ones that inherited the best set of genetics...tape

Cut #4 :12 OC:...“values alone.”

For more information, visit holstein USA dot com(www.holsteinusa.com).

CALIFORNIA CROP WEATHER

WEEK ENDING: July 23, 2017

RELEASED: July 24, 2017

WEATHER

Another hot and mostly dry week across the State as a typical summertime weather pattern set up with mid-level ridging over the Great Basin brought dry air into most of the State. The summer monsoon began to ramp up last week, bringing some much-needed rainfall to parts of the southern and interior deserts. Scattered showers fell on parts of the desert on Tuesday and Wednesday, with most places receiving less than a quarter of an inch. A few isolated sprinkles fell in the central and southern Sierras on Sunday, along with more widespread showers in the southern deserts that dropped an additional quarter inch of rain in most places.

Hot temperatures continued to melt the snow in the mountains. Mt. Whitney was devoid of snow, while snow still blanketed parts of the Shasta Peak. A few isolated patchy snow fields still existed at elevations over 11,500 feet in the region of the Stanislaus National Forest.

Temperature highs were in the 60s to 80s along the coast, 70s to 90s in the mountains, 90s to 100s in the valley, and 90s to 110s in the desert. Temperature lows were in the 30s to 50s in the mountains, 50s to 60s along the coast, 60s to 70s in the valley, and 60s to 90s in the desert.

FIELD CROPS

Barley harvest was completed. Alfalfa fields were being irrigated, cut, and baled. Corn and sorghum for silage were still being cultivated and irrigated. The corn silage crop was in various stages of development, from already tasseling to developing ears. Wheat harvest for grain was completed. Cotton continued to be irrigated, cultivated, and was growing well. Cotton was forming squares and blooming. Black-eyed beans continued to be irrigated and cultivated.

FRUIT CROPS

Mid-season peaches, nectarines, and plums continued to be picked and shipped to both domestic and foreign markets. Stone fruit continued to be exported. Summer pruning and topping of harvested stone fruit groves were occurring. Valencia orange harvest continued primarily for the domestic market. Regreening was becoming more common due to the higher temperatures. Olives continued to develop. Table grape were harvested. Wine grapes were maturing well and irrigation continued.

NUT CROPS

Walnut, almond, and pistachio orchards continued to be irrigated. Both mechanical and chemical weed control continued in orchards. New almond orchards were planted. Pistachios were fertilized. Walnuts were sizing well.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Colusa County, the processing tomato harvest continued. In San Joaquin County, harvest was ongoing for cantaloupes, honeydew melons, watermelons, and fresh vegetable crops. The second planting of cantaloupe was underway for late summer and fall harvest. In Fresno County, harvest continued for tomatoes with lower yields than expected. Onions and garlic were harvested. Onion seed was dried. In Tulare County, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, and peppers were picked by certified producers and sold at the local Farmers' Markets. Yellow squash, zucchini, eggplant, Bell peppers, green chili peppers, and cucumbers were harvested and shipped domestically. Sweet corn harvest continued and was sold at roadside stands and local Farmers' Markets. Melons were irrigated and prepared for the upcoming harvest.

LIVESTOCK

Low elevation rangeland continued as dry with conditions as fair to good, but quality continued to decrease. Cattle were moved to higher elevations; where higher elevations were providing more grass than in previous years. Feed cost for cattle remained high. Nursery shipments were slowing overall. Wholesale nursery shipments to Canada and domestic markets decreased due to the hot summer temperatures. Small amounts of citrus nursery stock continued to be sold.