



The first time for Montichiari,  
the second time for Doriana!

***Another success for the Dairy Show in its "new" location at Montichiari, as Al-Pe Doriana, from the Beltramino brothers, confirms her title of Grand Champion for the second year in a row.***

As many of you will know by now, thanks to the agreement between Ente Fiera of Verona and Centro Fiere del Garda, and to the cooperation between the Provincial Associations of Breeders (APA) of Verona and Brescia, the 6th edition of the International Open Dairy Show took place in Montichiari, from February 2 to February 4, 2007.

This first edition in Montichiari, hosted by Centro Fiera del Garda, could not have been better. And this in spite of the desertion – for health reasons – of many important countries such as France, Great Britain and Belgium, which have been fixtures of the event in previous years, and which this year were prevented from attending by the Italian authorities, rightly worried over the danger of Blue Tongue.

Certainly, the presence of many different nations would have added further prestige to this wonderful show. But the 185 animals presented (from 64 herds, from 18 Italian provinces and 3 foreign nations) meant these absentees were not missed too much, at least not in terms of performance and quality seen in the ring.

There was also a large presence of the Bruna breed (150 animals), whose breeders were competing for the first time away from Verona, the home of the Bruna National Show. On Sunday the final carousel of the main breeds bred in Italy, presented by A.I.A., aroused interest and curiosity among the large crowd.

In the evocative atmosphere staged in and around the ring, the young but experienced Canadian judge, Brian Carscadden, had a chance to evaluate and place many animals of high quality, some of which were internationally renowned. In his final judgment, in choosing his Champions, he confirmed the placing of the 5-year-old class: the title of Grand Champion went therefore to AL-PE Doriana ET, from the Beltramino Herd (Torino), still in top-notch shape, and in perfect form to defend the title she had won the

previous year, not to mention the title of Italian National Champion won in Cremona last October. Convinta (owned by Errera, Priori and Zilocchi), was her Reserve and Best Udder of the Show, while Travesia James Elsa, a James x Aeroline from the Spanish herd La Travesia, deserved the Honorable Mention. As such, together with the other winning participants from abroad, she emphasized the international appeal of this show.

The awareness of the international dimension of the Dairy Show was also felt at the Sale (held by Anafi and Semenzoo Italy), where the top price was rightly paid for a heifer presented by France, Beauty, sold for 7,100 Euro to the Villa Curta herd of Reggio Emilia.

The few hours dedicated to the youth competition (Agafi) were pleasing and interesting, especially for the comments and suggestions from Mr Carscadden. However, despite our efforts, this presentation does not yet receive the attention we think it deserves, considering that the young people in the ring will be the future protagonists of our shows. We'll need to work on this.

For us, the 2007 edition of the Dairy Show held in Montichiari was, in a way, the training ground for a new, innovative way of working together, unfortunately seldom seen in our industry.

Our joint efforts brought good results. However, as the Presidents of two very important breeders associations, we feel that what we were able to achieve could be an initial example of the synergies that we can all implement to safeguard our sector, in the interest of the future of the Italian dairy industry.

Eventually, the enthusiasm and the pride in participating prevailed. And for this we would like to thank all the people who helped us and supported our decisions. But, most of all, we would like to thank the dairy farmers themselves, in Italy and abroad, who participated in spite of these difficult times for the dairy industry. They made us gratified by our job, and proud to be part of this world, a world which - come what may - remains a uniquely fascinating one.

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