

A.J. Quist Memorial Young Breeder of the Year Award

Stephen Mast of Denair is the recipient of the 2014 A.J. Quist Memorial Young Breeder of the Year Award. Stephen made his first registered Holstein purchase, Budjon-JK Milan Elegant-ET (EX-92 DOM), with his brother at the 1999 World Classic Sale at World Dairy Expo. Elegant was a Milan daughter of Krull Broker Elegance (EX-96 GMD DOM) who went on to be Nominated Jr. All-American Sr. 3-Year-Old in 2002 and produced over 30,000 lbs. milk with four Excellent daughters. Stephen has since bought out his brother and currently has more than 25 females tracing back to Elegant, including his first 10th generation EX, Calori-D SM Million Emilia (EX-90), whose fourth dam is Elegant. While Elegant was his first purchased Holstein, Stephen actually got his start with registered Holsteins when he was awarded Hurtgen-Vue Mathie Bingo from a calf giveaway put on by the Stanislaus County Holstein Breeders Association in fall of 1995. Stephen says this calf is what really got him hooked on registered Holsteins!



Lynnea, Emma and Stephen Mast with award presenter Pat Maddox.

Today, Stephen owns a total of 59 registered Holsteins, 32 of which are owned solely by Stephen and his wife, Lynnea, and the other 27 in partnership with Stephen's parents, Cal and Lori Mast, and/or his sister, Rebekah Mast, all of Calori-D Holsteins.

Stephen is a member of the Merced County Holstein Club and was the chair of the 2010 Merced Club Sale held in conjunction with the State Holstein Show. Stephen also co-chaired the 2014 California Convention Sale and is now serving on the California State Holstein Association Board of Directors. In addition to his Holstein sale roles, Stephen also helps the Central Valley Jersey Club organizing their field day and sale they put on every spring. He is responsible for getting the Holstein consignments and doing a clipping demonstration, and also helps with a fitting and showing workshop that Associated Feeds puts on every fall.

As a youth, Stephen was recognized by receiving the Young Breeder of the Future Boy Award and twice competed at National Holstein

Convention on the California State Dairy Bowl team. However, his most recent accomplishments with registered Holsteins come from the cows he owns himself, or that have done well with his family through the years. Some of those animals include Elegant, mentioned above, Lylehaven Durham Marriet-ET (EX-94), Ocean-View Ito Jewel (EX-94 DOM), McClelland Dundee Illana (EX-93), Calori-D Jasper Marigold (EX-92), Oakfield Dempsey Rasta-ET and Trifecta Observ Shavon (VG-87).

Stephen classifies his herd every seven months using the Holstein Association Limited Program (where all cows without a CTPI are required, and all other cows are optional). He also genomic tests several females per month through Holstein Association, and does monthly testing through DHIA.

When asked to write a statement about why he believes registered Holsteins have a future in his program and the future of dairy, Stephen responded,

"Registered Holsteins are, and forever will be, a big part of my life. The milk pays the bills, and without it we do not have anything. Registered cows are what gets me out of bed every morning."

"Whether it is the art of making the perfect mating to produce our next State Show champion, or the science of matching numbers and crossing my fingers hoping for 500 over parent average – I love it all!"

"Showing has been something that our family has done together for close to 20 years, and I hope it is something that I will be able to do with my kids someday. The friendships that I have made through registered Holsteins will last my lifetime, and the memories I have made have been great ones. I hope the best ones are still to come! Breeding, showing and developing registered Holsteins will forever be a part of Calori-D Holsteins and the California dairy industry, not because it is essential to our future, but because we love it!"

Congratulations to this year's recipient of the A.J. Quist Memorial Young Breeder of the Year Award, Stephen Mast.

Past A.J. Quist Award Winners

1957 Melvin George	1967 Tom Sawyer	1979 Joe Vieira	1991 Dennis Areias	2003 Tony Borba
1957 Alvin Quist	1968 Paul Rollin	1980 Dan Ranney	1992 Leroy Rocha	2004 Bill & Jennifer Silva
1958 Maurice & Lindsey Ketscher	1969 Kip Herzog	1981 Louie Jr. & Leo Durrer	1993 Chris Hellwinkel	2005 Chris & Ellen Durrer
1959 Wackerman Brothers	1970 Louis Calcagno	1982 Ralph Grossi	1994 George & Kelly Morasci	2006 Tara Davis
1960 Bill & Libby Clark	1971 George Nunes	1983 Bill Genasci	1995 Dino Migliazzo	2007 Ryan Matheron
1961 Norman & Freda Lucas	1972 Stanley Gomes	1984 James Quist	1996 Joey Airoso	2008 Jon & Tami Tollenaar
1962 Louis Aufdermaur, Jr.	1973 Andy Hurtgen	1985 John Honnette	1997 Patrick Maddox	2009 Robert Teixeira
1963 Bernard Souza, Jr.	1974 Mike Martin	1986 Frank Borba	1998 Mike Mulas	2010 Lucas Deniz
1964 Doug Maddox	1975 Vic Gouveia, Jr.	1987 George McClelland	1999 Joey Fernandes	2011 Jana McClelland
1965 Tom Nunes	1976 Tony Bos	1988 Hank Van Exel	2000 Chris & Agnes Sawyer	2012 Natalie Silva
1966 Art Avrit	1977 Gilbert Teixeira	1989 Ken & Kathy Elliot	2001 Donald Rollin	2013 Matthew & Lauren Evangelo
	1978 Dino Ortega	1990 Leo Langerwerf	2002 Tony DeMello	