

HISTORY OF

GUERNSEY CATTLE

The Breed and The Brand

SEPTEMBER 1840, IMPORTATION TO AMERICA

Captain Belair of the Schooner Pilot brought three Alderney cows to the port of New York. Later, Captain Prince imported two heifers and a bull from the Island. These animals were the original stock of a great majority of the Guernseys that make up the national Guernsey herd today.

960 A.D., HUMBLE BEGINNINGS OF A GOLDEN BREED

The Isle of Guernsey, a tiny island in the English Channel off the coast of France, is the birthplace of the Guernsey cow. Bred with the best bloodlines of French cattle — Norman Brindles, also known as Alderneys, from the province of Isigny and the famous Froment du Leon breed from Brittany — the Guernsey was born.

2014, GUERNSEY TODAY

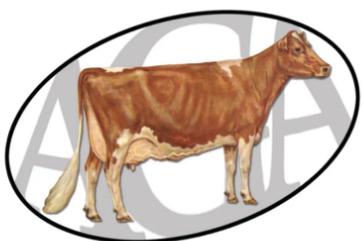
Data from herds enrolled in the American Guernsey Association's Dairy Herd Improvement Register program during 2014 shows the breed average to be 17,578 pounds of milk, 776 pounds of butterfat and 575 pounds of protein on a mature-equivalent basis. Today, even as numbers decrease across the country in all dairy breeds, the Guernsey registration numbers are increasing.

1877, AMERICA'S GUERNSEY'S

With the understanding that positive identification is crucial to preserving the purity of the breed, a group of Guernsey breeders founded the American Guernsey Cattle Club. Since then, the organization has registered over 3 million Guernseys and is now called the American Guernsey Association.

THE GOLDEN GUERNSEY PRODUCT

The Guernsey cow is known for producing high-butterfat, high-protein milk with a high concentration of beta carotene. Being of intermediate size, Guernseys produce their high-quality milk while consuming 20-30 percent less feed per pound of milk produced than larger dairy breeds. Other attractive characteristics of Guernseys are their lack of any known undesirable genetic recessives and their adaptability to warmer climates.



AMERICAN
GUERNSEY
ASSOCIATION