

Winners jet to sun

Philip and Christine Kelsall from Wyreside Farm, St Michaels near Garstang, will be taking some time off for a European trip early next year, courtesy of NMR. As winners of the company's awareness campaign, Philip and Christine received vouchers towards a holiday of their choice. The Kelsalls are planning to turn this into a family affair and take their three children too.

Philip, who with Christine runs the 300-cow Wrightington Holstein herd, entered the NMR awareness campaign at the Dairy Event in September. He got all six questions connected with Johne's disease and its control

measures correct and was the first name drawn from all correct entries placed through the show season.

Philip and Christine operate strict biosecurity measures on their unit. "Many years ago I read an article about Johne's disease and knew that it was something to keep well under control. This was before Johne's became more high profile," said Christine.

NMR is continuing its Johne's awareness campaign and a second European break is now up for grabs. Producers can enter at www.nmr.co.uk/nmr-awareness-campaign-2011-win-a-european-city-break/.

Philip and Christine Kelsall receive their holiday vouchers – worth £800 – from NMR area manager Janet Simpson (left)



Chemist takes manager role

Sam Fewings has been appointed as NML's account manager. Part of NML's business development team, she is responsible for managing the milk testing services for a number of NML's processing customers.

A dairy producer's daughter from Dunster, Somerset, Sam graduated with a degree in chemistry from the University of Bristol in July 2011.

"Many of my customers are based in the south west," says Sam. "I am based at NMR's Chippenham office, but travel to customers in the south west or to the NML milk testing labs at Wolverhampton and Glasgow."

Sam has been showing cattle since



Sam Fewings

she was five and has won many competitions. She also won the CRC Press Prize at Bristol for her laboratory work.

Latest 100 tonners

The three top cows in the combined September and October lists of cows reaching 100 tonnes and ranked on their lifetime daily yields (LDY) are:

1. Wilderley Sman Bluebell, who produced 109,305kg of milk and is in her sixth lactation. She has a LDY of 33.49kg/day and belongs to the Higgins family, Pulverbatch, Shrewsbury.

2. Mansfield Sterling Kelly, who produced 108,505kg of milk and is also in her sixth lactation. Her LDY is 29.90kg/day and she belongs to DRR & ME Stranger and sons Ltd, Westor, Shaftesbury.

3. Chalcllyffe Lily Carnation GP84, who produced 107,480kg of milk and has a LDY of 29.55kg/day. She is in her eighth lactation and belongs to J F Cobb and Sons, West Chaldon, Dorchester

A full list of 100 tonne cows is published on the NMR web site.

Vets take InterHerd

Forty vets got first-hand training in the new InterHerd+ system at the British Cattle Veterinary Conference in November. This brings the number of practices using the software to 150.

Improved analysis of performance data and new functions such as the direct download of disease test results, including Johne's, is part of the new InterHerd+.

2012 diary

The NMR herd management ring binder is as popular as ever. It's a fail safe way to make sure everything is noted. "We have a growing number of new users every year – they always return for a copy the following year so it must work well!" says NMR's Kim Price.

Order copies now from NMR customer services, 0844 7255567. Price: £23 plus vat.