



Krull Farms, Lake Mills, WI

“Ladies of Wisconsin” Krull Broker Elegance – The Family Behind the Cow

By Ashley Yager

A legendary cow is hard to come by, and the Brian and Cindy Krull family of Lake Mills, Wis., were fortunate to breed such a cow when they produced Krull Broker Elegance, EX-96 2E GMD DOM. Brian and Cindy own and operate third-generation Krull Farms with their children Cassy, Bryce and Carley.

The Krull’s herd of 55 cows has a RHA of 24,803M with 3.8 939F and 3.1 729P lbs, and boasts a 111.8% BAA. An over 90% homebred herd, the Krulls have received Progressive Breeders Registry recognition 19 times to date. They have also been recognized as Premier Breeder and Exhibitor at the Wisconsin State Fair Open Show, District 8 Holstein Show, and Midwest National Spring Show.

Elegance’s roots start with her fourth dam, Krull Kingstead Excellency, an EX-92 4E GMD daughter of Kingstead Fond Hope, who had a lifetime milk record of almost 180,000 lbs. The first homebred Excellent cow in what was a five-generation lineup, she brought her powerful front end and depth of rib to the family. Elegance’s third dam, Krull Boot Mark Excellency, EX-92 2E GMD DOM, was a Sky-Hi Boot Mark daughter with high production and superb strength in her own right. Second dam Krull TT Excellency, EX-90 DOM and a daughter of Triple

Threat, also had extreme width to her rump and a great udder. Elegance’s dam, Krull Starbuck Excellency, EX-90 GMD DOM, had a black, silky frame just like Elegance.

Elegance was born in August of 1993, and calved at 2-0 in August of 1995. This Conant-Acres JY Broker-ET daughter scored VG-88 on her first classification in March of 1996. While there had been some interest in Elegance as a heifer, the word continued to spread after an impressive first score. While many potential buyers visited the Krull farm, many wanted to see Elegance fresh again before they made the move to purchase her. Brian and Cindy remember veteran cowmen Ron Schaap, Verne Meske, and Nels Rehder as some of the first admirers of Elegance.

Elegance freshened for the second time just one week before World Dairy Expo in 1996. With the Krull’s farm being so close to the world-renowned Expo, the event pulled in numerous visitors and the Krulls priced Elegance to potential buyers. In fact, Elegance and another individual were priced to a group from South America. The buyers chose the other cow over Elegance, but she remained an alternate in the event that the chosen cow failed her health tests.

Another interesting aspect of this family is that the five generations of Excellent were almost short-circuited many years earlier when Elegance’s third dam was sold as part of a package to South America. She and two other individuals were sold, but Excellency returned home due to a failed leukosis test.

Elegance remained in the Krull’s herd until a few weeks after World Dairy Expo. Of all the interested buyers, it was Joel

Five Generations of Elegance at Krull Farms:

Elegant Rose
EX-93 GMD DOM

Durham Everything
EX-90

Throne Eugenia
EX-91

Shot Enough
EX-90 GTPI +1797

Baxter Elusive
GTPI +1874



Mark Sorensen

Kietzman who was intrigued by Elegance on a previous visit to Krull farms. He stopped in with Tom Cull to see her after expo, and they decided to buy Elegance after she scored EX-90 on October 29, 1996. From then on Elegance would call Budjon Farms home, and be known as the founder of the Budjon-JK partnership between the Cull family and Joel Kietzman.

The Krulls sold Elegance under the terms that they would receive some embryos in return, particularly to keep their five generations and the potential for additional generations of homebred Excellent cows intact. At the time, the Elegance branch was the deepest of the family. The Krulls made the decision to sell Elegance because they wanted her to reach the “next level,” both in the show ring and through an extensive flushing program.

Brian and Cindy continue to develop the Elegance branch through her daughters. They were fortunate to have three daughters result from Elegance’s embryos. Krull Skychief Easter, EX-90, is a Skychief daughter that has produced seven EX daughters to date. Krull Elegant Rose, EX-93 GMD DOM, is a full sister to Easter and has an additional seven EX daughters. Easter’s Durham son is making a name for himself in Japan as a popular show bull and highly proven sire. He resulted from a package of embryos sold to Japan, where almost all of Elegant Rose’s embryos were marketed to when she was a young cow.

Krull Counselor Essence, EX-90, has also been marketed across the globe. Her Excellent four-year-old daughter by Durham has been another fantastic brood cow and flushed extensively. She also has two impressive Derry daughters.

The most exciting members of the Elegance family that the Krulls are now working with include Krull Goldwyn Entrust-ET, EX-90 at 3-05, Krull Shot Enough-ET, EX-90, and a Baxter daughter from Enough, Krull Baxter Elusive. Entrust and Enough are ninth generation homebred Excellent cows, and Elusive completes five generations of milking females currently on the Krull’s farm from Elegance’s family. Enough’s Baxter daughter was the second place Senior Two Year Old Cow of the Junior Show at the 2010 Midwest National Spring Show, and has five bull contracts.

Entrust has tested very well genomically and is the most heavily AI contracted member of the family. Enough has been flushed to Sanchez, Baxter, Colby, Alexander and Jeeves.

On the show side, Krull Dundee Ellory, EX-92, has been outstanding for Brian and Cindy’s daughter Cassy. Ellory was named Junior All-American Senior Three Year Old in 2009, and was nominated Junior All-American as a Senior Two Year Old in 2008. The Krulls have flushed Ellory and hope to have her back in the show ring for 2011.

To date, the Krulls have sold hundreds of embryos to 21 different countries from the Elegance family. “There is so much depth of pedigree from breeding done well by us and everyone



***Krull Goldwyn Entrust-ET EX-90
9th Generation Homebred Excellent at Krull Farms***

with members of the family. You know if you breed right you’ll get good, consistent cattle,” breeder Brian Krull comments on his favorite aspect of the family. “We’ve stayed in the lines and used modern bulls while holding on to type and keeping production in mind.”

Brian and Cindy continue to use the mating philosophy of staying with what they know. They want to breed to get cattle that will be an asset to and continue to deepen Elegance’s pedigree without making a hole. Their favorite cross on the family has been high type sires, such as Goldwyn, Durham, and Shottle. These bulls have had

the most impact on the family moving forward.

One criticism breeders have of Elegance is her lack of highly proven sons. However, Brian and Cindy are quick to point out her sons were sired by bulls such as Encore, Stardust and Integrity, making the odds of becoming highly proven not in their favor. Young Sires going to AI today from the family have a more

modern sire stack and are genomic testing quite well.

The Krull family set a goal years ago of breeding ten consecutive generations of homebred Excellent cows, and they are now within reach of that goal thanks to the Elegance family. More than 80% of the herd can be traced back to Elegance. Brian and Cindy remain humbled by the fact they bred Elegance, and admit the

entire experience has been hard to grasp. It’s been a surreal trip, but the Krull family looks forward to developing future generations of the world-renown Krull Broker Elegance family.

Elegance’s Maternal Line

Dam: Krull Starbuck Excellency EX-90 DOM GMD
3-3 365 27,104 3.5 937F 3.4 930P

Second Dam: Krull TT Excellency EX-90 DOM
Lifetime: 109,780 3.7 4,077F 3.3 3,605P

Third Dam: Krull Boot Mark Excellency EX-92-2E-GMD DOM
6-6 353 27,410 3.8 1,040F 3.2 868P
Lifetime: 201,440 3.5 7,105F 3.2 4,932P

Fourth Dam: Krull Kingstead Excellency EX92-4E-GMD
Lifetime: 179,790 3.6 6,436F 3.1 5,573P

Elegance... Did you know?

As Wisconsin Holstein members and breeders, we may take for granted our knowledge of one of the most prominent cow families in our state and even the history of the breed. The Krull family bred Elegance, and Joel Kietzman and the Cull family were the individuals that continued to develop the cow. Brian and Cindy get calls to this day asking how they are involved with the Elegance family and how they have so many daughters. In fact, Cindy estimates there are 50-plus Holstein breeders and potential buyers who have contacted them over this confusion! Visitors have literally stood in the Krull’s barn looking at cows and asked why they use “Krull” as their prefix when it belongs to someone else. A refresher course on Holstein history would help them to understand that “Krull” is not only Brian and Cindy’s last name and prefix, and the “Cull” family resides at Budjon Farms, home of the Budjon and Budjon-JK prefix. A pure stroke of fate that these names that are so similar are connected to the same cow family and has resulted in much confusion from breeders and buyers all over the world!