

FAMILIES IN THE SPOTLIGHT

More than just a Flash of Colour...

- The establishment of the Ultra Marine family at Quintrell Jerseys.

In July 1990 a batch of six in calf heifers came from the Island of Jersey to be sold at the Royal Show, while prices topped at over 2000gns, perhaps the true bargain of the day says Mike Colwell of the Cornish based Quintrell herd was their investment at 600gns in Itaska Fillpail Magenta. She would go on to establish the Colour family for them which includes seven EX and a further six VG homebred offspring so far from the 45 born from what is the herds real foundation cow here on British soil, Quintrell PSJM Ultra Marine EX95-7E.

The Itaska Fillpail's will be well known to any connoisseurs of Jersey breeding the world over and indeed members of that cow family have now also been spread across the world, with many well known American sires descending from the family when traced back to the 1950's and beyond. For Mike the Colwell's purchase turned into a 'big gangly heifer with a hole in her teat' he recalls but nevertheless when bred to Midnight Storm this produced a VG daughter, Gannel Midnight Blue VG86 who carried Mikes own prefix before the family reverted back to the Quintrell prefix of the Colwell family in subsequent generations. Itaskas Fillpail Magenta calved in for Mike in January 1991 for the first time, and subsequently calved every year over the next decade, living to 12 years of age and producing five heifers over the years, although Gannel Midnight Blue VG86 was one of only three to have progeny registered from and the sole line of the family to still be established and breeding on today.

Over the years the Itaska Fillpails have long been recognised and acknowledged as superior producers, none in fact more so than Itaska's Fillpail Merrydew who was Champion Island Producer in 1984, and subsequently gave 8616kg at 5.34% fat and 3.84% protein (equating to over 1000lbs fat and protein in a 305 day record) in 1985. Merrydew is not a direct member of the Quintrell Colour family line however she can be traced via Itaskas Fillpail Magenta back five straight generations of cows scored in the top two grades, all in John Le Ruez's herd. Magenta's dam is the VG85 Itaskas Fillpail Melanie by Flushs Dazzling Stan, who in turn is from the EX94 Forias Escort daughter Itaskas Fillpail Margaret EX94, she is from the EX95 Itaskas Fillpail Merrimaide, whose dam is the EX92 Itaskas Fillpail Maiden born in 1963, while her dam is the EX91 Itaskas Mermaid sired by Ansom Calais Visitor.

Sires from the Itaska's Fillpail family have always been sought after worldwide, the family was established in Jersey by the Le Ruez family and in particular John Le Ruez, and the family has been disseminated far and wide with cattle from the family imported by countries such as the USA, Denmark, Belgium, Ireland, France, and Canada, as well as semen from the bulls of the family going to New Zealand, as well as countries in Africa, Asia and South America, and a bull from the family was even used in the Queens herd at Windsor. While Magenta herself never reached the high echelons of production, the best of her eleven lactations being her fifth when she yielded 4917kg at 5.67% fat and 3.8% protein in 305, and her daughter, Gannel Midnight Blue VG86 similarly had four lactations over 5000kg to a top in her fifth of 6260kg at 4.41% fat and 3.59% protein - both showed great longevity for which the family is very much recognised and appreciated for today at Quintrell.

The birth of Quintrell PJSJM Ultra Marine EX95-7E on 20th April 2001 is where the modern day story of this cow family begins. Few cows can be described as institutions - but Ultra Marine comes close - her lifetime production over ten lactations accrued over 70 tonnes of milk, with her best record being her seventh when she finished just shy of 10,000 litres in 305 days at 9906kg

at 4.48% fat and 3.38% protein, at a mere eight years and ten months of age, having calved for the first time at a very youthful one year and ten months. Ultra Marine enjoyed a phenomenally successful show career, four times being Breed and twice being Interbreed Champion at the Royal Cornwall Show as a second calver and then as a fourth calver. Starting life as a GP83 heifer, she subsequently scored VG88 in her second, went EX92 in her third, and had three EX95 scores to



Top: Quintrell PJSJM Ultra Marine EX95-7E, pictured in 2012 in her 9th lactation having produced over 70 tonnes milk and below her earlier in life, pictured in her 2nd lactation at the Royal Cornwall where she was twice interbreed champion.

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culminate in her EX95-7E score.

Then there is Ultra Marine's massive impact as a brood cow, she has had six daughters registered from her- of which three are EX and a further two VG, as well as six sons, of which Quintrell Maximus Cobalt EX93-2E will be the most well known and also there is Quintrell May Vermillion who also has semen collected. Her eldest daughter by Jas Hot, Quintrell Hot Pink EX91 herself milked seven lactations, although she lacked the production levels of many other family members, but she's left her mark as the dam of Quintrell Ringmaster Magenta EX93-5E who in turn is dam of Quintrell May Carmine EX92-2E and may provide the line of the family to achieve five generations straight EX carrying the Quintrell prefix through her March 2016 Reagan daughter. Ringmaster Magenta is currently herself in her eighth lactation and still in the herd - again showing the families penchant for long lived cows.

The Colwell's belief in the family is cemented by the number of bulls which have been registered and subsequently used either on farm or sold to other farmers. As mentioned so far Quintrell Maximus Cobalt has obviously received the most notoriety as he was both independently marketed by his breeder and also latterly sold by Cogent, resulting in his current progeny listing which runs to 167 registered progeny of which 11 are currently EX, 18VG and a further 22 are Good Plus, with his proof showing a sire capable of adding



Above: Quintrell Hot Pink EX91 the eldest daughter of Ultra Marine, pictured in her 7th lactation in 2012, she is the dam of Quintrell Ringmaster Magenta EX93-5E.

Quintrell PJS Ultra Marine EX96-7E

<p>Quintrell Hot Pink EX91</p>	<p>Quintrell Ringmaster Magenta EX93-5E</p> <p>Quintrell Excitation Maroon (Male) - 2 EX, 5VG, 7GP progeny of 20 registered</p>	<p>Quintrell Comerica Cerise VG88</p> <p>Quintrell Show Mauve G76</p> <p>Quintrell May Carmine EX92-2E</p> <p>Quintrell Rocket Cinnabar VG85</p> <p>Quintrell Excitement Blush GP81</p> <p>Quintrell Verbatim Crimson (DOB: 21/05/16)</p> <p>Quintrell Kernal Umber (Male) (DOB: 23/03/14) - 12 dtrs registered all born in 2016</p>	<p>Quintrell Colton Coral GP82</p> <p>Quintrell May Red (Male) (DOB: 22/03/13)</p> <p>Quintrell Legal Fuchsia Pink</p> <p>Quintrell Reagan Red (DOB: 23/03/16)</p> <p>Quintrell Ladd Taupe (Male) (DOB: 27/03/17)</p> <p>Quintrell Jasper Carnelian</p> <p>Quintrell Joel Indian Red (DOB: 21/03/17)</p> <p>Quintrell Christoph Rose Pink (DOB: 04/04/17)</p>
<p>Quintrell Prix Blue</p>	<p>Quintrell Comerica Cerulean ET EX91-3E</p>	<p>Quintrell Mint Lapis Lazuli GP81</p> <p>Quintrell Kyros Indigo EX92</p> <p>Quintrell Million Cyan GP84</p> <p>Quintrell Ballard Azure Blue (DOB: 08/03/16)</p>	<p>Quintrell Governor Lilac GP80</p> <p>Quintrell Reagan Blue (DOB: 13/03/16)</p> <p>Quintrell Joel Violet (DOB: 03/04/17)</p> <p>Quintrell Christoph Purple (DOB: 19/03/17)</p>
<p>Quintrell Show Aquamarine ET VG86</p>	<p>Quintrell Reagan Scarlet EX95-3E</p> <p>Quintrell Firepower Sangria F74</p> <p>Quintrell Christoph Colourful (DOB: 12/07/17)</p>	<p>Quintrell Tequila Zaffre VG86</p> <p>Quintrell Impression Maya Blue (DOB: 24/03/17)</p> <p>Quintrell Verbatim Turquoise (DOB: 05/05/17)</p> <p>Quintrell Mohican Rouge VG88</p> <p>Quintrell Christoph Marron (DOB: 19/07/17)</p> <p>Quintrell Chrome Cadmium (Male) (DOB: 05/03/16)</p>	<p>Quintrell Willow Orange EX90</p> <p>Quintrell Affirmation Ochre G79</p> <p>Quintrell Costus Olive (DOB: 15/03/17)</p>
<p>Quintrell Maximus Cobalt EX93-2E (Male) (DOB: 29/03/05) - 11 EX, 18VG, 22 GP progeny of 167 registered</p> <p>Quintrell Whiskey Viridian (Male) (DOB: 19/03/07) - 4 EX, 6 VG, 4 GP progeny of 79 registered</p> <p>Quintrell Hearts Indigo (Male) (DOB: 22/03/08)</p> <p>Quintrell Belmont Azure (Male) (DOB: 15/03/10)</p> <p>Quintrell Comerica Royal Blue ET (Male) (DOB: 23/03/10) - 3 progeny registered</p> <p>Quintrell May Vermillion (Male) (DOB: 26/04/13) - 1 VG & 4 GP 2-yr olds so far, 27 progeny registered</p>			

**The progress of the
Ultra Marine family at Quintrell**

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Quintrell Maximus Cobalt EX93-2E, Ultra Marine's most successful son with 11 EX and 18 VG daughters to date.

frame and capacity while foot angle and locomotion are areas worthy of protection when correctively mating with him. Interestingly his greatest impact has no doubt been within the herd where he was born, as there are so far nine EX daughters of Cobalt carrying the Quintrell prefix, the highest scored being the EX94 Quintrell Cobalt Osprey.

The next chapter of the Colour family story may well from the male perspective come down to the March 2017 born bull Quintrell Ladd Taupe. He is by the American sire Goldust Karbala Ladd, and Taupe is certainly very promising from a genomic perspective, he is from the 6736kg 6.19% fat and 4.15% protein Quintrell May Carmine EX92-2E, and subject to passing the relevant health tests will enter the Cogent stud soon.

Another member of the Quintrell Colour family to be on the radar is Quintrell Reagan Scarlet - and she is carrying on the families prize winning show ring performance. Now in her fifth lactation she is also a second generation EX95 scored cow, in fact EX95-3E. She was awarded first prize in a strong class of eight senior cows at this year's National Jersey Show, while milking in what will be her third successive 7000kg plus lactation, with her calving her fourth at five years and two months of age and then giving 7524kg at 4.88% fat and 3.48% protein. The plan now is to flush her this winter to as yet an undecided sire says Mike.

Interestingly as yet this line of the Itaska Fillpail's doesn't feature many other breeders or prefixes than the Colwell's at Quintrell, although this is set to change going forward as James Warren purchased the EX90 Quintrell Willow Orange, a daughter of the VG86 youngest of Ultra Marine's daughters Quintrell Show Teal, who has already left a daughter and granddaughter for Mike et al, while just recently a Colour family member has made the trip over the Irish sea to join the Fleming family at Potterswalls - Quintrell Kyros Indigo EX92, being a daughter of the sole ET Comerica from Ultra Marine, Quintrell Comerica Cerulean EX91-3E, with Kyros Indigo already leaving the next generation at Quintrell with her 2016 born Reagan and 2017 born Joel natural offspring. Kyros Indigo is finishing off her third lactation and will calve her fourth in Ireland to J Kay Tequila Fizz next Spring.

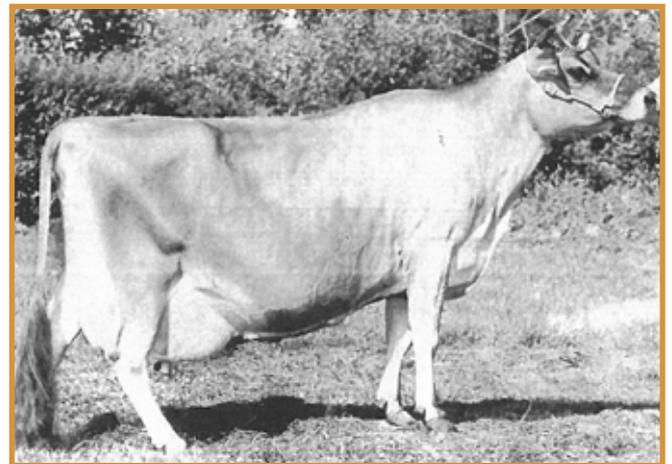
The next generation of Colours on the female side is certainly likely to create great excitement, without doubt for the Colwell's but also for many others as the robustness and consistency of this well established family continues to be acknowledged. In the last twelve months alone seven females have been born that are direct descendants of Ultra Marine herself, by sires such as Joel, Christoph, Impression and Verbatim and they are in years to come likely to continue to brighten up what is already a colourful cow family.



Quintrell Reagan Scarlet EX95 the highest scored daughter of Ultra Marine, pictured this year following her success at the National Jersey Show winning the senior cow in milk class, milking in her fifth lactation, she will be flushed this time.



Quintrell Kyros Indigo EX92, a grand daughter of Ultra Marine pictured in her third lactation now owned by the Fleming family.



From earlier family roots - Itaskas Fillpail Merrydew EX90, Champion Island producer in 1985.