

It All Started Here

1763

Legislation introduced by the States of Jersey preventing the importation of cattle, to protect the local market for agricultural products and prevent import of cattle diseases, ensured the evolution of the 'Jersey' breed.



1789

The States of Jersey introduce a ban on live cattle imports into the Island.

1833

The Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society is founded.



1834

The first show of cattle in Jersey was arranged by the RJA&HS and held in the Beresford Street Cattle Market in St. Helier.

1850

Exports become an important source of income for farmers as the Jersey breed is exported to many countries around the world to form new populations.



1866

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The Jersey Herd Book is established, as a register of animals in the island. This is the start of formal pedigree breeding and the systematic improvement of the breed providing a way of regularising the breed. The ancestry of all pedigree 'Jerseys' in the world can be traced back to the Herd Book here in the island.

1866

The Artificial Insemination Centre is set up.



1951

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The World Jersey Cattle Bureau is founded.



1954

The Jersey Milk Marketing Board, the farmer's co-operative is created by an Act passed by the States of Jersey.

1968

Saw the first supreme champion cow to be sired by international Jersey Genetics. The winning animal was Imagine Saltan Daisy, bred and exhibited by Imagine Jerseys (Steve Le Feuvre and Rob Stevenson).



1974

An outbreak of foot and mouth occurs. Another was to follow in 1981.

1978

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Her Majesty The Queen, was presented with an Island cow to add to her famous Windsor herd.

1946

The presentation of the Champion Cow "Mary Belle of the Isle" to Miss Mary Churchill, the Society's gift to Mr Winston Churchill.



2001

States of Jersey designate this as the 'Year of the Jersey' which culminated in the unveiling of a bronze life size sculpture of a group of Jersey cattle in St Helier.

2008

The States of Jersey amended legislation to enable the importation of pedigree Jersey bull semen allowing for the introduction of breeding stock for the first time in over 200 years.

2020

In Jersey, there are over 4,000 head of cattle on 15 milk producing farms, and the breed is the second most numerous dairy cow on the planet.

1983

RJA&HS celebrates 150 years with a pageant of country life at Rozel Manor.



1882

The cow 'Khedive's Primrose' was sold to America for the incredible sum of £1,000, which in those days would have been sufficient to purchase an average size farm, house and buildings.

1940

Jersey is occupied during World War 2 which brought many challenges to agriculture in the island.

1930

In Jersey, there were over 12,000 head of cattle on 1,808 holdings.



1919

The bull 'Sybil's Gamboge' is sold for a world record \$65,000 and paraded down New York's Wall Street.

1912

The introduction of a system of recording the weight of milk yielded by the individual cattle, that was the forerunner of the system of milk recording carried out to this day.

