



Adult miniature "Guinea Jerseys" range from 35 to 42 in. tall and weigh 500 to 600 lbs. Bulls are slightly larger at 600 to 800 lbs.

"Guinea Jerseys" Join Miniature Dairy Breeds

By Jim Ruen

The Miniature Cattle Breeders Society is now one breed stronger with the addition of Guinea Jerseys. The little dairy cows are actively bred and maintained by only about six breeders in the U.S.

Some miniature breeds have been bred "down" to a smaller size but Guinea Jerseys were imported "as is" from the island of New Guinea in the 1880's or 1890's by a North Carolina man. The animals quickly caught on as family cows, thanks to their ability as foragers, their small size and an unusually high butterfat content of 7 to 7 1/2 percent. Unfortunately for the breed, a family seldom needed more than one cow, and little thought was given to maintaining the breed by most owners.

Tim O'Donnell, an Illinois breeder with nine head, has long had a passion for the animals. He praises them for their even temperament. Even the bulls seldom show signs of aggression, according to O'Donnell. The oldest he has seen was nine years old, yet it was as gentle as a one or two year old. At birth, the animals measure just 16 to 20 in. tall and weigh only 20 to 25 lbs. Adult cows range from 35 to 42 in. and weigh 500 to 600 lbs. Bulls are slightly larger at 600 to 800 lbs.

The half dozen known herds range from a few animals to about 30 head. An author of several articles about the breed, O'Donnell reports a renewed interest in the small breed based on the several hundred e-mails, letters and calls he has received in recent months. Unfortunately for prospective buyers, he reports that no animals are currently for sale, though he may begin selling semen from his two bulls this fall.

"There are only about 45 brood cows in the U.S.," says O'Donnell. "One gentleman has raised them for more than 50 years. He has kept the breed going."

For more information on Guinea Jerseys and other mini cattle breeds, contact the International Miniature Cattle Breeders Society. The Society registers animals, publishes a newsletter and provides information on the 15+ miniature cattle breeds. A complete information packet is available, including a sample newsletter and a breeders list at a cost of \$25 including P&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Miniature Cattle Breeders Society, 25204 156th Ave. S.E., Kent, Wash. 98042 (ph 253 631-1911; fax 253 631-5774; E-mail: info@minicattle.com; Website: http://www.minicattle.com).



Home-built trailer is equipped with self-contained hydraulics, allowing Skinner to pull it behind his pickup.

Inexpensive "Do-It-Yourself" Dump Trailer

"This trailer hauls 3-ton gravel loads, big round bales, and firewood. What's great about it is that it dumps hydraulically but I can pull it behind my pickup," says Gary Skinner, Fort Scott, Kan., about his home-built trailer with self-contained hydraulics.

He bought two trailer house axles for \$65 and picked up an electric-powered truck hoist at an auction for \$22. He built the trailer frame and dump bed from scratch. Two lengths of heavy channel iron run lengthwise across the top of the axles, braced by shorter cross pieces. The 12-volt hydraulic pump mounts at the front of the frame.

The dump box was formed by making a rectangular frame out of channel iron, and then running cross pieces on top of the frame. A wood cargo box was built on top with short sides.

"It's very handy for all kinds of jobs around



Two lengths of heavy channel iron run lengthwise across the top of the axles. A 12-volt hydraulic pump mounts at the front of the frame.

the farm. Lets me get a lot more use out of my pickup," says Skinner.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gary Skinner, Rt. 4, Box 117, Fort Scott, Kan. 66721.

Miniature Cattle Breeds

Mini Jersey

Timothy O'Donnell
10925 N. 640th St.
Altamont, IL 62411
(Please include SASE if response desired)
(Phone: 618-483-5081) or
timothydavid56@hotmail.com

Mini Hereford

Trish Stine
18892 McLouth Rd.
Toganoxie, KS 66086
(Phone: 913-369-3284)

Mini Brangus

Martin McCosker
"Lyona" Ben Lomond
NSW 2365, Australia
(Phone: 61-067-332-080)
(U.S. Phone: 253-631-1911)

Mini Kentshire

Richard Gradwohl
25204 156th Ave. S.E.
Kent, WA 98042
(Phone: 253-631-1911)

Australian Mini

Angus (Lowline)
Gene Kantack
3485 Sun Circle
Idaho Falls, ID 83404
(Phone: 208-523-5959)

Mini Dexter

Charles George
7411 288th, E.
Graham, WA 98338
(Phone: 253-847-7204)

Mini Kingshire

25204 156th Ave. S.E.
Kent, WA 98042
(Phone: 253-631-1911)

Mini Barbee

Richard Gradwohl
25204 156th Ave. S.E.
Kent, WA 98042
(Phone: 253-631-1911)

Happy Mountain

Richard Gradwohl
25204 156th Ave. S.E.
Kent, WA 98042
(Phone: 253-631-1911)

Mini Open Breeds

Richard Gradwohl
25204 156th Ave. S.E.
Kent, WA 98042
(Phone: 253-631-1911)

Mini Durham/Shorthorn

R. David Wilcoxon
(Phone: 503-556-2160)
Steve Langer
(Phone: 503-472-3391)

Mini American Beltie

(Oreo Cookie Cattle)
Charles George
7411 288th E.
Graham, WA 98338
(Phone: 253-847-7204)

Mini Highland

Rick Sanders
8708 NW Kaiser Rd.
Portland, OR 97231
(Phone: 503-289-4464 home or
503-248-9713 ext. 6 work)

Mini Zebu

Dennis Beranek
908-176 Ave. W.
Milan, IL 61264
(Phone: 309-756-0506)

Mini Belfair

Robert Mock
P.O. Box 942
Rochester, WA 98579
(Phone: 360-273-7789)
or
Fonnie Thoman
21019 State Rt. 75
Crown City, OH 45623
(Phone: 740-256-1724)
or
Tracy Teed
P.O. Box 821
Conway, WA 98238
(Phone: 360-435-2121)



A length of 8-in. dia. pipe runs down the middle of the trailer, with three rectangular bale carriers welded onto each side.

Gooseneck Bale Hauler Made From Steel Pipe, Semi Tractor Axle

Gary Hatten, Neoga, Ill., used lengths of 8-in. dia. steel pipe and an old dual-wheeled, semi tractor axle to make his own low-cost, gooseneck round bale hauler.

"My tractor is equipped with a homemade 3-pt. bale spear that has a ball receiver on top, so I can use either my tractor or pickup to pull the trailer. It'll haul up to six round bales in a single layer and nine bales if I use a front-end loader to put more bales on top," says Hatten.

A length of 8-in. dia. pipe runs down the middle, with three rectangular bale carriers welded onto each side. The bale carriers are

made from 2 1/2-in. dia. steel pipe. A length of 2 1/2-in. dia. pipe welded on horizontally above the main pipe serves as a "backbone" for the rig and adds strength. It also serves as a "stop" when loading bales.

"The dual wheels on the semi tractor axle are nice because if one tire goes flat the other tire can still carry the load," says Hatten, who notes that he'd be willing to sell the bale hauler for about \$2,000.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gary Hatten, Rt. 1, Box 370-4, Neoga, Ill. 62447 (ph 217 849-3352).