

NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gord Rendle Named 2011 Curtis Clark Achievement Winner

Gord Rendle of Stanhope-Wedgwood, Victoria, B.C., was named the 25th winner of the Curtis Clark Achievement Award at the 2011 Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto, Ont., on November 11th. The award, which was established in 1988 by the Alberta Holstein Branch, honours the memory of the late Curtis Clark of Acme Holsteins, a respected Alberta Holstein breeder and showman. It is awarded annually to the dairy cattle exhibitor who possesses the character and necessary attributes to be respected by his peers. Selection of the winner is made by former recipients of the award.

A talented cowman and Holstein breeder, Gord Rendle is respected by all for his eye for cattle, his enormously hard work ethic, and his fitting and merchandising ability. Gord and his brother Rod are the third generation of Rendles to operate Stanhope Dairy Farm Ltd. which has been in the registered Holstein business since 1927. The herd has won Master Breeder shields in 1986 and 2010. A 4-H member while growing up, Gord Rendle started fitting cattle as a teenager. In addition to showing and preparing the Stanhope showstrings, he worked as a show fitter for such noted west coast herds as Colony, Langview, Glenkay/Kayglen, Skagvale and Carnation. Rendle travelled by train seven times to the Royal Winter Fair with the British Columbia cattle exhibits. He was one of the first Canadian fitters to work at shows in the United Kingdom.

In 1987, Stanhope formed a partnership with the Wikkerink family of Wedgwood Holsteins, Cobble Hill, B.C., to develop, breed, show and market top cattle. They began with one cow, Eagleriver Matinee Bliss (Ex-5E-11*), and with the later purchase of the nearby Youelldene herd have gone on to achieve international recognition and success.

Showing is a passion for Rendle, 57, who actively manages, prepares and works with the Stanhope-Wedgwood cattle at every show they participate in each year in Canada and the United States. Within the span of a few months in late 1999/early 2000, he prepared champion cows in three different countries – Rainyridge Tony Beauty (Ex-5E-9*) to grand and Supreme Champion at World Dairy Expo in the U.S.; Beauty to reserve grand champion and Stanhope Tiffany Skydome (Ex-3E-3*) to intermediate champion at the Royal Winter Fair in Canada; and Excaliber Saucy Skychief, a cow Stanhope-Wedgwood exported to the United Kingdom, to grand champion at the British National Holstein Show in England. In addition to Tiffany, Stanhope-Wedgwood has owned or developed four more intermediate or reserve intermediate champions at the Royal – Eppdale Boots Double Play (Ex-1*) in 1996; Wedgwood Trixie Gibson (Ex-96-2E-2*) in 2004; Brookvilla Jasper Aka (Ex-92-USA) in 2008; and the latest in 2011, Silvermaple Damion Camomile (VG-89). Another

show winner to be developed by them was Idee Lustre (Ex-95-3E-USA-9*), who topped their 2001 Stanhope-Wedgwood Sale and then went on to be grand and Supreme Champion at the 2002 Royal Winter Fair.

In addition to the Stanhope-Wedgwood cattle, Rendle has overseen the Morsan Farms showstring from Alberta the last two years which has produced two Supreme Champions – Eastside Lewisdale Gold Missy (Ex-95), 2011 Royal Winter Fair and World Dairy Expo Supreme Champion; and Blondin Redman Seisme (Ex-92-USA), 2010 Royal Supreme Champion.

Each year, Rendle gives numerous young people the opportunity to work alongside him on his show crews where he teaches and mentors them on preparing cattle. Rendle has judged many shows and in 2004 was the Associate Holstein Judge at World Dairy Expo. He is an owner, director and vice-president of Foundation Sires and owner/director of Foundation Genetics Service Inc. Supporting him throughout these many endeavours have been his wife Karen and son Scott.

The Curtis Clark award is very special to this year's winner because of the close personal relationship that has existed between the Rendle and Clark families for more than 30 years. Gord Rendle knew and admired Curtis Clark. "Curtis was a legend and is still legendary," he says.

Gord Rendle received a gold belt buckle as a personal keepsake of this award. His name will also be engraved on the distinctive Clark trophy with its bronzed version of Curtis Clark's hat.

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