

Camomile: The Conformation Queen

During the height of her show career Silvermaple Damion Camomile commanded a 6-figure price tag at public auction. Was she worth the investment? Find out here!

IZZY JONES

Most people's first memory of the 2-time All-American, All-Canadian Silvermaple Damion Camomile EX-95 was when she was Reserve Grand in Madison in 2011. However if you were to be freshly introduced to her today, you may first learn that she is a breed-leading type brood cow. As you often get with cows of this calibre, Camomile changed hands several times over her career, but it all started in the Cuthbert family's Silvermaple herd in British Columbia, Canada. 'I purchased Camomile's dam, Camila, at a Stanhope sale for just C\$2700,' begins Ben Cuthbert, 'I really liked the cow family and Camila's Triumphant-dam. Camila was the best investment of my life – she lived to be 11-years-old, had 7 VG/EX progeny and obviously, gave us Camomile.'

SALE

In 2012 Camomile was purchased by Butlerview Farms for a massive \$290,000 at the International Intrigue Sale. At Butlerview Camomile underwent an intensive ET/IVF program, enhancing her brood cow credibility. In 2016 came the Butlerview dispersal sale and, unsurprisingly, heading the bidding was Camomile – purchased by Mike, Matt and Mark Iager. Matt Iager comments: 'Over the years we've had the opportunity to work with several of Camomile's daughters: Butlerview Doorman Class EX-91 and Butlerview Gold Chip Camomile VG-88-3yr were exciting young cows we sold. Just recently we calved in two beautifully uddered Junior 2-year-old Camomile-daughters by Brazzle and Armani. We have several Doormans, Corvettes, Atwoods and Brazzles. Each of these individuals are extremely balanced and correct, silky-hided with extreme dairy quality, with tremendous length of body and outstanding feet and legs. However, last year, my brother Mike had the best idea which was to bid on Camomile herself. Our goal was to continue to produce extreme high-type offspring that would transmit into great cows. We've merchandised embryos from the family to Japan, Australia, Canada, and Europe.'

HIGH PTAT

Doorman-Camomile has been an impressive mating and 6 of her 7 North American Doorman-daughters have scored VG/EX. Camomile's daughters are also breeding well genomically too... Butlerview Doorman Camilla EX-92, who



Silvermaple Damion Camomile has 26 classified daughters and 21 of them scored VG-2yr. Of those 21 VG-2yr daughters, 38% scored VG-88-2yr or VG-89-2yr.

'Camomile's family is our best ever breeding family'

– Ben Cuthbert, Silvermaple

was recently Grand Champion at the Indiana State Show, is the dam of Kingboy-son Mr Triplecrown Coronado (3.27 PTAT) at St.Jacobs/ABS. Doorman Class EX-91 had 6 early Archrival-daughters, all of which tested extremely high on their type genomic numbers with Caroline (3.96 PTAT) being Nr.6 gPTAT last year. Camomile's Beemer-daughter, Comet VG-86-2yr, who was HM Intermediate Champion at the 2017 Vancouver Island Show, is one of the highest conformation cows in the breed (+17). Whilst her full-sister, Cali, is dam of the Nr.7 Conformation female: Blondin Jacoby Caracas (+19). Ferme Blondin has a number of Camomile's descendants, including Butlerview Uno Card VG-88-2yr who the Quebec-based herd purchased in 2014. Dann Brady (Blondin) says: 'Card is a favourite cow in the herd. She has a Jacoby-son heading to Sexing Technologies that is over 4.00 PTAT and she has a Callen-son going to Blondin Sires. In our business we try to combine outstanding type with genomic type – Camomile fits that profile extremely well.'

NEXT CHAPTER

Camomile's oldest daughter is Silvermaple Bolton Cameo EX-94, dam of Silvermaple Braxton

♀ Kendu Broker Cleopatra GP-83

Conant-Acres-JY Broker



♀ Kendu Triumphant Charity EX-93

(Renaissance Triumphant)



♀ Stanhope Camila Goldwyn EX-90

(Braedale Goldwyn)



♀ Silvermaple Damion Camomile EX-95

(Erbacres Damion)



♀ Silvermaple Bolton Cameo EX-94

(Sandy-Valley Bolton)



Camomile's Windhammer-daughter, Silvermaple Camille EX-92, was Grand Champion of the 2016 Junior Show in Madison. Her full-sister, Wedgewood Camomile VG-89-2yr was Grand Champion at Vancouver Island in 2016.



Butlerview Doorman Camilla EX-92: Show cow and bull dam all in one package.

Calypso VG-88-3yr – one of the stars of the Silvermaple herd. At Silvermaple there are currently around 40 family members including 2 full-sisters to Camomile, a Beemer-Camomile and an Armani-Camomile that has 2 Awesome-daughters. 'Both of Camomile's full-sisters, Cola VG-87-2yr and Carmen VG-85-2yr, will be really good brood cows,' adds Ben, 'We have flushed Carmen to Gold Chip and we have flushed her VG-87-2yr Atwood-daughter to Unstoppabull!' Meanwhile, Matt continues: 'We unfortunately lost Camomile last year. What we loved the most about Camomile was her incredible personality – she was a complete joy and pleasure to work with every day. Camomile's legacy will continue to impact the Holstein breed for many years.' ●