



## DELTA FIDELITY (KIAN X LIGHTNING X SPECTRUM)

**Production proof: 162 daughters in 134 herds**  
(Source DairyCo breeding+, Interbull January 2010)

Kg M	% fat	% prot.	Kg fat	Kg prot.	PIN	PLI
<b>+226</b>	<b>+0.11</b>	<b>+0.17</b>	<b>+17.8</b>	<b>+20.9</b>	<b>£44</b>	<b>£155</b>

Longevity: **+369 days (very good)**

SCC: **-1 (average)**

Calving ease: **106 (easy, suitable for maiden heifers)**

Temperament: **104 (good)**

Milking speed: **102 (average)**

Type Merit: **+1.24**

**Conformation traits: 64 daughters in 53 herds**  
(Source NVO, January 2010)

	88	100	112
Frame	102		
Dairy strength	102		
Udder	108		
Feet and legs	114		
Total score	111		
Stature	103		
Chest width	104		
Body depth	104		
Angularity	105		
Condition score	98		
Rump angle	97		
Rump width	101		
Rear legs rear view	109		
Rear legs side view	93		
Foot angle	105		
Locomotion	113		
Fore udder attachment	105		
Front teat placement	105		
Teat length	98		
Udder depth	103		
Rear udder height	107		
Rear teat placement	106		
Central ligament	106		

### Fantastic locomotion

A dozen Fidelity daughters were seen at the recent CRV Cow-Expo by Iain Brown and Lee Hunter of Avoncroft with a group of UK farmers. "The heifers had plenty of capacity, super udders and fantastic locomotion," says Iain. "They were strong in the chest with good feet and legs and tracked well. Their udders are beautifully square with a strong ligament and good teat placement," adds Lee.

With his production and type profile, Fidelity is attractive to both red-and-white and black-and-white breeders.

The reliable Mariannes are responsible for the Kian son Delta Fidelity

# The faithful family behind Fidelity

Descendants of the high index red-and-white Holstein Delta Fidelity have, for many years, featured in CRV's Delta nucleus breeding programme, in which most of his family continue to prove their worth.

text **Annelies Debergh**

**W**ith its mix of red-and-black Holstein blood, the cow family behind Kian son Delta Fidelity appears to have a motley assortment of genes: in particular, careful scrutiny of the blood lines reveals deep roots in the MRI (Meuse Rhine Issel) breed.

The Delta Fidelity story begins with Henk te Velde. When he was switching to more productive black-and-white Holsteins, he combined MRI cow Marian (sired by Wilbert) with the black-and-white Holstein bull Freebrook Sexation Amos. This combination resulted in a heifer calf, Marian 5, who inherited the red factor due to her MRI ancestry. Of all the descendants of Marian 5, the one that

drew the most attention was the daughter of a then test bull, Oudkerker Constantijn, who later became a successful bull.

### Promising start

This Constantijn daughter did not go unnoticed by the Topspeed syndicate – which in the 1990s was looking for the best test bull daughters in order to develop new cow families and breed bulls from them. Topspeed Marian RF was purchased by the syndicate. Her first lactation, producing 10,200kg of milk with 4.01% of fat and 3.51% of protein in 305 days, was so promising that both red-and-white and black-and-white bulls were used to breed from Marian.

*Delta Bliss VG85 (s. Ramos) Full sister to Fidelity*





Delta Bles VG83 (s. Lightning). First 305-day lactation: 10,065kg of milk at 3.85% fat and 3.65% protein



Holland Jalta (s. Spektrum). First 305-day lactation: 10,442kg of milk at 3.79% fat and 3.58% protein

A coupling with Delta Cleitus Jabot, who topped the breeding index on 10 occasions, produced the VG85 cow Marian 11 for Henk. “At that time the red factor was attracting a lot of attention,” recalls CRV breeding technician Henk Verhey, “which made a cow family such as this one even more interesting.” Marian 11 also appeared to carry the red factor. After being transferred to the Delta testing operation she produced 10,391kg of milk with 4.12% of fat and 3.41% of protein in her first 305-day lactation. “She performed very well,” says Henk. “This Jabot daughter excelled, particularly in the areas of milk production with a high protein content.”

### Extraordinarily easy

Bulls including Lucky Leo, Spektrum and Tulip all had their chances with Marian 11. Three Lucky Leo embryos were destined for Arie de Wit’s operation. “Lucky Leo daughters were seen at shows on a regular basis, but the bull himself was not that easy to get hold of. That’s why I bought the embryos.” One of these embryos produced the VG87

daughter Marianne 1, flushed to Ricecrest Brett (among others) to produce Marianne 3, dam of Sinatra son Nelson 174 Alfons, a bull in CRV’s international line-up. In this branch of the family, the red factor was not reproduced. “Later on I thought it was a shame, but it did make it easier for us to work with the family on a broader basis.” Arie is now milking six daughters of Marianne 1. “They are extraordinarily easy cows to work with. These are very placid, productive cows that average VG85.”

The red-and-white factor was perpetuated in the Delta programme, with Spektrum daughter Holland Jalta playing a central role. In her first lactation, Jalta produced 10,442kg of milk with 3.79% of fat and 3.58% of protein. “The high production and good protein content are very typical.”

Henk Verhey attributes this latter characteristic to the MRI in the pedigree. “From the point of view of external appearance, the family has been rather less prominent, but in terms of production, it is all the more promising.” Following on from Holland Jalta, a

daughter of Hallerdijk Karakter and Lightning is taking up the baton from her mother. Delta Juneau VG87 (sired by Karakter) has achieved bull dam status, with one Talent daughter and three Stadel daughters having graduated to Delta donor status.

### Very handsome

Lightning daughter Delta Bles VG 83 completed her first lactation having produced 10,065kg of milk with 3.85% of fat and 3.65% of protein in 305 days. Henk saw her as a first-calved heifer. “This is a very handsome, typically good-looking Lightning daughter, a very appealing animal with great milk production. She was a tremendous production cow and also handled the job well.”

Apart from Kian, Bles has also been coupled with bulls such as Poos Stadel Classic, Gogo and Ramos, sons from which are also available from CRV.

Fidelity, a Kian son, made his debut in August with a PLI of £180, and total score of 112 for type. “Kian and Lightning are a really good combination,” says Henk. “The two bulls complement one another well. The average Lightning daughter is slightly lacking in terms of frame and rump. Kian can make improvements in that area.’ Both bulls score well on legs. You can see that reflected in the breeding value of Fidelity.”

And now Delta Bettie VG84 – a full sister of Delta Fidelity – and the Ramos half-sister Delta Bliss VG85, are representing the family. “The family is strong in terms of production and fat and protein content, and external features have been added at a later stage,” says Henk. “The combination of Kian with a Lightning mother has proved successful. Fidelity can make the transition and produce good cows for free stalls with cubicles.” |

