

The Slick Gene - what is it?

And why every dairy farmer should take notice!



The Slick gene is a naturally-occurring genetic mutation that results in a shorter-hair coat in livestock, for example, it can be found in native Senepol cattle in the Caribbean. The University of Florida successfully introduced the Slick gene into the Holstein breed in the 1980's by natural cross-breeding (not via genetic manipulation) and eventually produced Holstein progeny that achieved sufficient merit for commercial use. For more on the University of Florida's history with the Slick gene please visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHLigl3qEGM

Livestock with a shorter hair coat are known to be more heat tolerant - research studies at the University of Florida confirm that. Also research in other places comes to the same conclusion e.g. in New Zealand http://www.aaabg.org/aaabghome/AAABG24papers/25Donkersloot24094.pdf. The difference in body temperature between a Slick animal and a non-Slick animal can be significant with the Slick animal maintaining a body temperature typically between 0.5 and 1 degree C lower under adverse THI conditions. The result is that the Slick animal is able to maintain milk production despite higher ambient temperature and humidity situations. Slick animals ought therefore be at a natural advantage in adverse environments such as in tropical and sub-tropical climates. Moreover, climate change and rising temperatures are creating conditions in all dairy regions throughout the world where Slick animals will have a natural advantage for part, if not all, of the year. For any dairy-farmer the question becomes why should my cows be wearing a thick fur coat in hot and humid conditions? Slick Holsteins with a shorter-hair coat provide an obvious answer to that question.



VALA BLANCO SUNNI (SLICK) - GPA TPI 2337, NM 328, gBPI 174



VALA BLANCO LOCUST (SLICK) - GPA TPI 2241, NM 221, gBPI 288

Vala Holsteins is a leader in Australia in the breeding of Holstein cattle. For more on Vala Holsteins and its breeding philosophy please visit https://www.valaholsteins.com/blogs/news/breeding-philoso-phy. Over the years Vala Holsteins has been breeding for traits such as A2A2 and polled. Both of these traits started from positions of inferiority compared to the index ratings, milk production, conformation and health & fitness traits of the then breed-leaders (i.e. non-A2A2 and horned Holsteins). However, in a relatively short period of time, breeders have closed the gap such that A2A2 and polled animals now compete at the very top of all major Holstein indexes



SLICK-GATOR BLANCO (SLICK) - GTPI 1977, NM 68, gBPI 205

worldwide and have, in many cases, become preferred choices for dairy-farmers. Slick genetics will likely undertake a similar journey and within a few breeding cycles can be expected to substantially close the gap to the Holstein breed-leaders.

At Vala Holsteins the genetic development of Slick animals is well and truly evident. Starting with one of the Slick sires bred by the University of Florida called Slick-Gator BLANCO, Vala Holsteins now has BLANCO grandsons that not only carry the Slick gene but also carry the A2 and polled genes. BLANCO had a TPI in December 2022 of 1977 and a Net Merit of +68 – which is obviously a long way from current breed-leaders at GPA TPI of 3000+ and Net Merit of 1000+. However, Vala Holsteins already has a BLANCO grandson with a very respectable GPA TPI of 2578 and a Net Merit of 512 and with a PTAT of +1.64 he doesn't sacrifice type either. At this rate of genetic development the gap between Slick Holsteins and the Holstein breed-leaders will close rapidly such that the heat tolerance superiority offered by Slick Holsteins would offset any remaining difference in index points and Slick animals would then become the preferred choice. Vala Holsteins is breeding Slick Holsteins to accelerate and achieve that objective - while, at the same time, delivering on its other breeding goals of A2A2, BB and polled - plus type/conformation and health & fitness traits. Dairy-farmers introducing the Slick gene into their herds now can get an immediate improvement in heat tolerance of their next progeny and, looking forward, can anticipate access to ever-improving Slick genetics to keep building upon each generation of Slick animals in their herd. Vala Holsteins is breeding a bull team for semen collection in order to satisfy the emerging market demand for Slick Holsteins - for enquiries on semen availability and prices please contact info@valaholsteins.com

Vala Holsteins March 2023



VALA SUNSATION-PC (SLICK) - GPA TPI, 2578, NM 512, gBPI 289





SUNNI-S (SLICK)

gBPI +174; GPA TPI +2337 - December 2022



Sire: Slick -Gator BLANCO (Slick) USAM144046155

SEMEN STRAWS AVAILABLE NOW

Vala Blanco SUNNI-S (Slick)

Blanco x Vala KingRoyal Sheena
Full Pedigree Holstein on Australian Herdbook
Herdbook ID H02111721
Porn 1/4/2020

Born 1/4/2020

Milk +125; +0.14%P & +0.35%BF A1A1/AB

Heterozygous Slick Carrier 50% of progeny will be Slick Carriers From a deep pedigree, proven North American cow family

- ★ gBPI +174 ★ GPA TPI 2337
- ★ HWI +109 ★ NM 328
- **★** HT 102 **★** PTAT 0.75
- **★** CE 101 **★** DCE 2.8
- **★** SCC 144 ★ PL 0.4
- **★** SURV 104 ★ SCE 2.2

A spectacular Dam Line from a Famous Cow Family stretching back to Rudy Missy herself

This Dam Line has produced bulls such as SUPERSIRE

Dam - Vala KingRoyal Sheena Grand Dam - Coomboona Silver Sheena 3rd Dam - Coomboona Supersire Shinta 4th Dam - Coomboona Snowman Sheenta 5th Dam - Pine-Tree Martha Sheen 6th Dam - Pine-Tree Missy Martha 7th Dam - Wesswood-HC Rudy Missy

Maternal Sire Stack

KingRoyal x Silver x Supersire x Snowman x Shottle x O Man x Rudolph x Bell Elton



5th Dam - Pine-Tree Martha Sheen



7th Dam - Wesswood-HC Rudy Missy





LOCUST-S (SLICK)

gBPI +288; GPA TPI +2241 - December 2022





Sire: Slick -Gator BLANCO (Slick) USAM144046155

Vala Blanco LOCUST-S (Slick)

Blanco x Vala Banderes Loca

Full Pedigree Holstein on Australian Herdbook

Herdbook ID H02108904

Born 11/2/2020 Milk +100: +0.04%P & +0.29%BF

A1A1/AB

Heterozygous Slick Carrier 50% of progeny will be Slick Carriers From a deep pedigree, proven North American cow family

★ gBPI +288 ★ GPA TPI 2241

★ HWI +334 ★ NM 221

★ HT 101
★ PTAT 0.45

★ CE 101 ★ DPR 1.9

★ SCC 153 **★** PL 1.5

★ SURV 107 ★ LIV 2.6

★ DF 112 **★** SCS 2.97

A spectacular Dam Line from a Famous Cow Family stretching back to Laurie Sheik herself

STRAWS

AVAILABLE

NOW

Dam Line

Dam - Vala Bandares Loca

G/Dam - Vogue Silver Lenas Loca

3rd Dam - Snowbiz N Uno Lena

4th Dam - Freurehaven FGS Lucy

5th Dam - Freurehaven Shottle Lautella

6th Dam - Freurehaven Lautella Bolton

7th Dam - Comestar Lautella Goldwyn

8th Dam - Comestar Lautella Igniter

9th Dam - Comestar Lautella Emerson

10th Dam - Comestar Lausan Black

11th Dam - Comestar Laurie Sheik

Maternal Sire Stack

Bandares x Silver x Numero-Uno x Snowman x Shottle x Bolton x Goldwyn x Igniter x Emerson x Blackstar

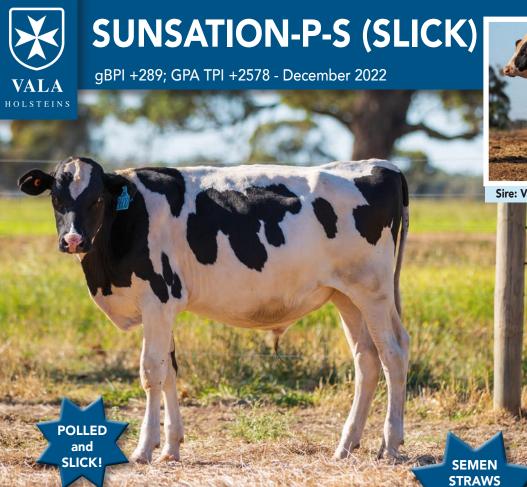


3rd Dam - Snowbiz N Uno Lena



10th Dam - Comestar Lausan Black







Vala SUNSATION-PC-S (Slick)

Sunni x Vala Mirand Salena-PP

Full Pedigree Holstein on Australian Herdbook

Herdbook ID H02191748 Born 28/4/2022

Milk -46; +0.23%P & +0.43%BF A1A2/BB

Heterozygous Polled Carrier 50% of progeny will be Polled Carriers Heterozygous Slick Carrier 50% of progeny will be Slick Carriers Some progeny will be both Polled and

From a deep pedigree, proven North American cow family!

★ gBPI +289 ★ GPA TPI 2578

★ HWI +296 ★ NM 512

★ HT 101
★ PTAT 1.64

★ DF 109 **★** DCE 2.3

★ SCC 129 ★ SCE 2.2

A spectacular Dam Line from a Famous Cow Family stretching back to Glen Drummond Splendor herself

AVAILABLE

LATER IN

2023

Dam Line

Dam - Vala Mirand Salena-PP

G/Dam - Vala Bighit Salena-P

3rd Dam - Parkhurst Powerball Salina-P

4th Dam - Josey-LCC Uno Sangaria

5th Dam - Des-Y-Gen Planet Silk

6th Dam - Gen-I-Beg Bolton Silence

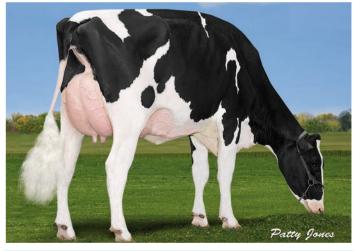
7th Dam - Gen-I-Beq Goldwyn Secret

8th Dam - Gen-I-Beq Durham Sherry

9th Dam - Glen Drummond Splendor

Maternal Sire Stack

Maternal Sire Stack - Mirand-PP x Bighit-P x Powerball-P x Numero Uno x Planet x Bolton x Goldwyn x Durham x Formation x Aerostar



3rd Dam - Parkhurst Powerball Salina-P



7th Dam - Gen-I-Beq Goldwyn Secret





SHANTY-S (SLICK)

gBPI +273; GPA TPI +2470 - December 2022



Sire: Progenesis ROCKSOLID HOCANM13483360

Vala Rocksolid SHANTY-S (Slick)

Progenesis ROCKSOLID x Vala Blanco Sheena-S (Slick)

Full Pedigree Holstein on Australian Herdbook Herdbook Registration H02192576 Date of Birth 31 March 2022 Milk -19; +0.12%P & +0.36%B/F A1A2/AB

Heterozygous Slick Carrier 50% of progeny will be Slick Carriers From a deep pedigree, proven North American cow family!

★ gBPI +273 ★ GPA TPI 2470

★ HWI +291 ★ NM 489

★ HT 103
★ PTAT 0.78

★ DF 108 **★** SCC 2.75

★ SCC 145 **★** PL 3.3

★ SURV 107 ★ Feed Saved 83



A spectacular Dam Line from a Famous Cow Family stretching back to Rudy Missy herself

This Dam Line has produced bulls such as SUPERSIRE

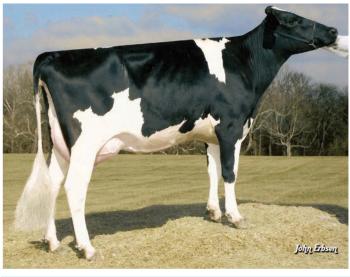
Dam - Vala Blanco Sheena-S (Slick) G/Dam - Vala KingRoyal Sheena 3rd Dam - Coomboona Silver Sheena 4th Dam - Coomboona Supersire Shinta 5th Dam - Coomboona Snowman Sheenta

6th Dam - Pine-Tree Martha Sheen 7th Dam - Pine-Tree Missy Martha

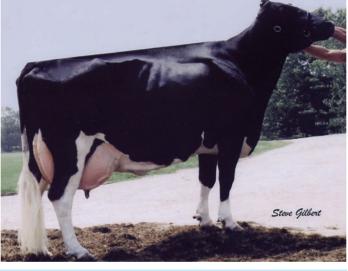
8th Dam - Wesswood-HC Rudy Missy

Maternal Sire Stack

Blanco x KingRoyal x Silver x Supersire x Snowman x Shottle x O Man x Rudolph x Bell Elton



6th Dam - Pine-Tree Martha Sheen



8th Dam - Wesswood-HC Rudy Missy





RUNE-PC-S (SLICK)

gBPI +377; GPA TPI +2330 - December 2022



Sire: Stantons COCKPIT HOCANM13198702

RUNE-PC-S (Slick)

Stantons COCKPIT x Vala Blanco Rosie-PC-S (Slick)

Full Pedigree Holstein on Australian Herdbook Herdbook Registration H02192581 Date of Birth 3 April 2022 Milk +628; -0.06%P & -0.11%B/F A1A1/AB

Heterozygous Slick Carrier 50% of progeny will be Slick Carriers 50% of progeny will be Polled Some progeny will be both Slick and

From a deep pedigree, proven North American cow family!

★ qBPI +317 **★** GPA TPI 2330

★ HWI +365 **★ NM 392**

★ HT 103 **★ PTAT 0.65**

★ DF 111 **★ PL 2**

★ SURV 108 ★ Feed Saved 112



A spectacular Dam Line from a Famous Cow Family stretching back to Glen Drummond Splendor herself

Dam Line

Dam - Vala Blanco Rosie-PC-S (Slick) G/Dam - Vala Lighthouse Rozina-PC 3rd Dam - Swissbec Jedi Rozina-PC 4th Dam - IHG Mardi Sens 9017-PC

5th Dam - K Manor Sensational-Red-POS

6th Dam - Lookout Pesce Magna P Sarah

7th Dam - Charpentier Mr Burns Sisi

8th Dam - Charpentier FBI Sierra

9th Dam - Gen-I-Beg Talent Spectra

10th Dam - Glen Drummond Splendor

Maternal Sire Stack

Blanco x Lighthouse x Jedi x Mardi Gras x Ladd-P-Red x Magna-P x Mr Burns x FBI x Talent x Aerostar

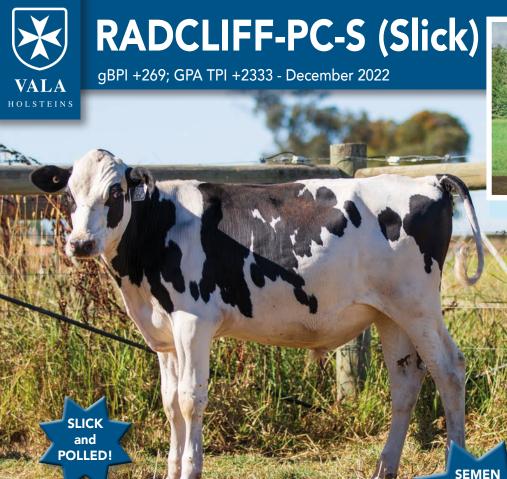


3rd Dam - Swissbec Jedi Rozina-PC



4th Dam - IHG Mardi Sens 9017-PC







Sire: Delta Nippon-P HONLDM916132992

Vala Nippon RADCLIFF-PC-S (Slick)

NIPPON-P x Vala Blanco Rozina-PC-S (Slick)

Full Pedigree Holstein on Australian Herdbook
Herdbook Registration H02192582
Date of Birth 5 April 2022
Milk +105; +0.11%P & -0.08%B/F
A1A2/AB

Heterozygous Slick Carrier 50% of progeny will be Slick Carriers 50% of progeny will be Polled. Some progeny will be Slick and Polled. From a deep pedigree, proven North American cow family!

★ gBPI +269 ★ GPA TPI 2333

★ HWI +335 ★ NM 417

★ HT 102 **★** PTAT -0.06

★ DF 111 **★** DPR 3.0

★ SURV 108 **★** Feed Saved 215

A spectacular Dam Line from a Famous Cow Family stretching back to Glen Drummond Splendor herself

STRAWS

AVAILABLE

LATER IN

2023

Dam Line

Dam - Vala Blanco Rozina-PC-S (Slick) G/Dam - Vala Lighthouse Rozina-PC 3rd Dam - Swissbec Jedi Rozina-PC

4th Dam - IHG Mardi Sens 9017-PC

5th Dam - K Manor Sensational-Red-POS

6th Dam - Lookout Pesce Magna P Sarah

7th Dam - Charpentier Mr Burns Sisi 8th Dam - Charpentier FBI Sierra

9th Dam - Gen-I-Beg Talent Spectra

10th Dam - Glen Drummond Splendor

Maternal Sire Stack

Blanco x Lighthouse x Jedi x Mardi Gras x Ladd-P-Red x Magna-P x Mr Burns x FBI x Talent x Aerostar

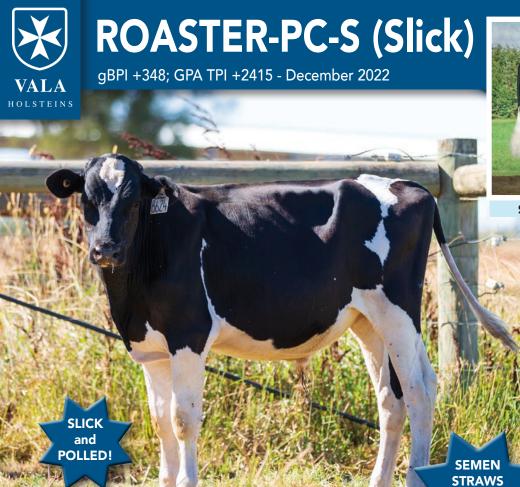


3rd Dam - Swissbec Jedi Rozina-PC



4th Dam - IHG Mardi Sens 9017-PC







Sire: Delta NIPPON-P HONLDM916132992

Vala Nippon ROASTER-PC-S (Slick) NIPPON-P x Vala Blanco Rosie-PC-S

NIPPON-P x Vala Blanco Rosie-PC-S (Slick)

Full Pedigree Holstein on Australian Herdbook Herdbook Registration H02197639 Date of Birth 28 April 2022 Milk +273; +0.11%P & +0.1%B/F A1A2/AB

Heterozygous Slick Carrier 50% of progeny will be Slick Carriers 50% of progeny will be Polled Some progeny will be Slick and Polled From a deep pedigree, proven North American cow family!

★ gBPI +348 ★ GPA TPI 2415

★ HWI +407 ★ NM 433

★ HT 101
★ PTAT 0.81

★ DF 113 **★** DPR 0.8

★ SURV 110 ★ Feed Saved 112

★ SCC 158 **★** PL 2.3

A spectacular Dam Line from a Famous Cow Family stretching back to Glen Drummond Splendor herself

AVAILABLE

LATER IN

2023

Dam Line

Dam - Vala Blanco Rosie-PC-S (Slick) G/Dam - Vala Lighthouse Rozina-PC 3rd Dam - Swissbec Jedi Rozina-PC 4th Dam - IHG Mardi Sens 9017-PC 5th Dam - K Manor Sensational-Red-POS 6th Dam - Lookout Pesce Magna P Sarah 7th Dam - Charpentier Mr Burns Sisi 8th Dam - Charpentier FBI Sierra 9th Dam - Gen-I-Beq Talent Spectra 10th Dam - Glen Drummond Splendor

Maternal Sire Stack

Blanco x Lighthouse x Jedi x Mardi Gras x Ladd-P-Red x Magna-P x Mr Burns x FBI x Talent x Aerostar



3rd Dam - Swissbec Jedi Rozina-PC



4th Dam - IHG Mardi Sens 9017-PC







Sire: Melarry SSI Rengd FORBES HO840M3200059944

Vala Forbes HAPPY-S (Slick)

Forbes x Vala Blanco Haven-S (Slick)
Full Pedigree Holstein on Australian Herdbook
Herdbook Registration H02204329
Date of Birth 28 July 2022
Milk +656; +0.05%P & -0.06%B/F
A2A2/AB

Heterozygous Slick Carrier 50% of progeny will be Slick Carriers From a deep pedigree, proven North American cow family!

- ★ gBPI +287 ★ GPA TPI 2449
- ★ HWI +257 ★ NM 509
- **★** DF 103 **★** PTAT 0.44
- **★ SURV 107** ★ SCS 2.8
- ★ SCC 157 ★ PL 3.7

A spectacular Dam Line from a Famous Cow Family stretching back to Rudy Missy herself

2023

Dam Line

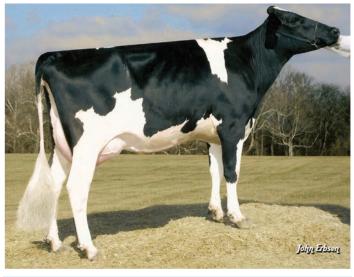
Dam - Vala Blanco Haven G/Dam - Vala Bighit Haviana 3rd Dam - BGP Jedi Havana 4th Dam - View-Home Uno Hope 5th Dam - Pine-Tree 2149Robst 4846 6th Dam - Pine-Tree Zenith Sheen 7th Dam - Pine-Tree Martha Sheen

8th Dam - Pine-Tree Missy Martha

9th Dam - Wesswood-HC Rudy Missy

Maternal Sire Stack

Blanco (Slick) x Bighit-P x Jedi x Numero Uno x Robust x Zenith x Shottle x O Man x Ruldoph x Bell Elton



7th Dam - Pine-Tree Martha Sheen



9th Dam - Wesswood-HC Rudy Missy







Vala Zazzle HUNTER-S (Slick)

AltaZazzle x Vala Blanco Haven-S

Full Pedigree Holstein on Australian Herdbook Herdbook Registration H02204310 Date of Birth 22 July 2022 Milk +376; +0.08%P & +0.24%B/F A2A2/AB

Heterozygous Slick Carrier 50% of progeny will be Slick Carriers From a deep pedigree, proven North American cow family!

- **★** gBPI +325 **★** GPA TPI 2582
- **★** HWI +319 **★ NM 527**
- **★** DF 109 **★ PTAT 1.33**
- **★ SURV 108 ★ DCE 1.8**
- **★** SCC 161 **★ PL 2.0**

A spectacular Dam Line from a Famous Cow Family stretching back to Rudy Missy herself

Dam Line

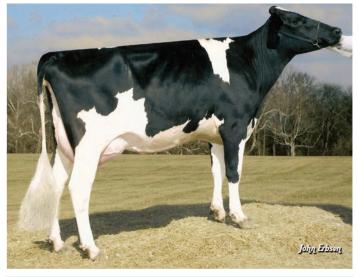
Dam - Vala Blanco Haven G/Dam - Vala Bighit Haviana 3rd Dam - BGP Jedi Havana 4th Dam - View-Home Uno Hope 5th Dam - Pine-Tree 2149Robst 4846 6th Dam - Pine-Tree Zenith Sheen 7th Dam - Pine-Tree Martha Sheen

8th Dam - Pine-Tree Missy Martha

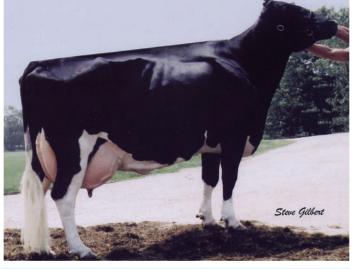
9th Dam - Wesswood-HC Rudy Missy

Maternal Sire Stack

Blanco (Slick) x Bighit-P x Jedi x Numero Uno x Robust x Zenith x Shottle x O Man x Ruldoph x Bell Elton



7th Dam - Pine-Tree Martha Sheen



9th Dam - Wesswood-HC Rudy Missy



