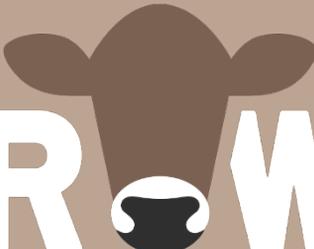


# BROWN SWISS



MORE THAN MILK

December 2023

## Brown Swiss news

*The European Brown Swiss journal*

Save the dates !

### Webinars « I breed Brown Swiss »

German speaking : Monday 5th of February, 8pm

French speaking : Monday 12th of February, 8pm

Italian speaking : Monday 19th of February, 8pm

Registration online : <https://www.brown-swiss.org/>

### European Brown Swiss show

April 12th to 14th 2024

Imst, Austria 



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 European  
Brown Swiss  
Federation

[www.brown-swiss.org](http://www.brown-swiss.org)



@ebsf\_brownswiss



*Wolfhard Schulze*

## Breed ambassador

Schmaus family, Germany

8 times over 100 000kg lifetime production for the Schmaus family

The Brown Swiss breed stands for lifetime production and longevity. So, it is not surprising that on Michael and Christine Schmaus's Brown Swiss farm in Rot an der Rot-Haslach there are many old, high-performance cows in the herd of almost 100 Brown Swiss cows and they go about their work inconspicuously every day.

It is no coincidence that the Schmaus family has bred and managed **31 cows with over 100,000 kg of lifetime production over the last 20 years**. All the pieces of the puzzle have to fit together, and everyone has to give 100%.

The well-known Pronto Luise with a lifetime production of 201,693 kg also came from this herd.

We recently had the opportunity to get 8 lifetime production cows weighing over 100,000 kg in front of our lens on our photo tour with Wolfhard Schulze. An absolute experience! All strong personalities, incredibly vital – simply fascinating when you get to work with such animals.

Not to mention, of course, the pride of the breeders! The Schmaus family lives Brown Swiss! Brown Swiss – more than milk!

From left to right on the picture :

Lolita (Vanpari)	107.062 kg
Napoli (Vapiano)	104.192 kg
Taube (Vasir)	120.148 kg
Lava (Vigor)	104.497 kg
Lama (Vanpari)	107.414 kg
Sindy (Payssli)	102.412 kg
Neckar (Huxoy)	103.169 kg
Natalie (Huray)	140.473 kg

Pronto Luise and the Schmaus family pictured by Rinderzucht Braunvieh in April 2022 when she exceeded the magical limit of 200 000 kg milk !



# Cow of the year

Each year, the French association elect the “cow of the year” to highlight the strengths of an exceptional cow.

## **CHIPIE, which combines longevity, productivity, heritability and morphology**

CHIPIE (Prince x Vinoxak), emblematic cow of GAEC Chayrigues in Aveyron. For 15 years, whether at exhibitions or during farm visits, she has never left anyone indifferent and continues to stand out. For its breeders, she is “THE” symbolic cow which will leave its mark on the history of the farm.



## **A fantastic mother-daughter duo!**

CHIPIE is in 9<sup>th</sup> lactation with a cumulative milk yield of 108,568 kg at 4.93 %F and 3.84 %P. She follows the footsteps of her mother URGELE with a record of 123,142 kg in 10 lactations.

The mother-daughter duo's combined lactation is spectacular: 231,710 kg! This is a first in France where the mother and daughter cross this symbolic threshold. Which confirms the exceptional genetics of the family! In addition, the CHIPIE-URGELE duo is one of the most productive male lines for the BGS creation scheme. To name only the most recent JERRY (Anibal), HAMEAU (Huxoy), MATHIEU (Halleluja) and more recently the bull MALCOLM who remains the No. 1 bull in ISU in the range of confirmed bulls. In the family, we also have ULTRATOP; male who returned to the semen production center in July: a son of ADEE on SPERANZIO who goes back seven generations earlier to URGELE! His full brother is also very well indexed in Switzerland following the purchase of an embryo by Swissgenetics.

## **A foolproof morphology**

With a score of EX 94, it is number 2 of the best cows scored in France: 94 in udder, 96 in development, 93 in rump and 93 in feet and legs. Solidity and above all power are the adjectives that best characterize it.

## **On the showrings of France and Switzerland**

CHIPIE also has a great track record to its credit. In France, but also in Switzerland, she participated in many shows. In 2010, she won the prize for Best Young Udder and Young Champion at the Sommet de l'Élevage in Cournon. Then a little later, she moved into the adult category and obtained the title of Grand Champion Adult and Grand Champion of the Interdepartmental competition of Baraqueville (Aveyron) in 2017.

She also contributed to the promotion of French genetics during the European Championship in Saint-Gallen in Switzerland in 2012 and won an honorable 4<sup>th</sup> place, which earned her the best prize for French animals present at this European confrontation.

Congratulations to the breeders for this title of cow of the year 2023 for CHIPIE, a complete and sustainable cow.

## **December proofs**

### **O MALLEY, still on top after the December proof**

O Malley (Bender) doubled his number of daughters and makes a great comeback in all countries.

With 1206 daughters worldwide, he is among the highest proven bulls, balanced in morphology bringing high components and good daughters fertility.

1287 GZW CH  
118 GZW  
345 NM\$  
947 ITE

### **Genomic bulls**

Titanium (Noro) remains n°1 of foreign bull in Germany with 138 GZW. He brings a complete type, great components and top fitness.

Toronto (Piston) went up at 135 GZW and ranks #4 in USA with 215 PPR. Very high production with components that improve the bottom line.





### Grand finale at the Young Breeders Show 2023

With outstanding performances and best placements, the RBW young breeders were able to successfully round off the RBW show season of 2023 at the Brown Swiss German Young Breeder Show 2023 in Unterthingau.

With 20 participants, the RBW had a very high-quality contingent of young breeders who not only presented their best Brown Swiss cows to the audience, but also demonstrated their skills as professional presenters. The judge of the showing competition, Karoline Strauss, placed great emphasis on adhering to the professional guidelines for the showing competition. In almost all cow classes, it was the team from Baden-Wuerttemberg who was able to position themselves well ahead and so, with Sara Rau, Max Hartmann, Anna Berger, Paul Rau, Simon Zimmermann and Fabian Fuchs, 6 RBW-competitors alone made it to the final of the best 12. Sarah Rau, Buenzwangen, was ultimately able to prevail as the reserve champion in the showing competition.

Animals from Baden-Wuerttemberg were also disproportionately successful in the cow competition, in which cows from their first to fifth lactation were admitted. Judge Matthias Fankhauser, who placed great emphasis on rear udder development, not only placed the Brownstar daughter Bahama Mama of Ernst Rau, Buenzwangen in first place in her class, but also highlighted her as the best first-calf cow and thus as a young champion and made her ultimately becoming the reserve grand champion of the show. Barca Ileen from Friedrich and Nikolas Sauter, Krattenweiler and Pete Heidi from Max Hartmann, Aichstetten were also placed very high.

Phil Lotto from Bentele GbR, Gruenkraut was able to win her class of second-calf cows. With 4 cows in the oldest cow class, the RBW dominated the old cows and was also able to win this class with Anibay Alpengirl from Andreas Hoermann, Kirchdorf and Alpengirl ultimately became reserve champion old. In addition, the Zimmermann, Bad Waldsee and Fuchs, Argenbuehl farms also provided well-known show cows with Assay Katrin and Puck Emmi in the old cow class.

With outstanding demonstration performances and convincing, very balanced show cows, the young breeders from Baden-Wuerttemberg once again demonstrated their skills at a very high level and confirmed the intensive young breeder work in Baden-Wuerttemberg. At the same time, the very complete cows, with very good udders and feet and legs, demonstrated once again after the outstanding performance at the national show in Alfeld that the RBW Brown Swiss breeding not only dominates the genetics, but also at the national level with the type of cow we have chosen is at the forefront.

**RBW**





## New bulls convince with positive components!

It's great that with **AG Viral**, **AG Aragon** and **AG Volcano**, three new bulls are being used that produce well over +700 kg milk with positive components. We are also adding the polled **AG Darwin PS** to the program. The long-awaited **AG Valps** (Vance x AG Alpsee) is now available and is regarded as a top bull without compromise. **AG Sion** improves with an increased number of daughters and thus finds his place among the progeny tested bulls.

The **overall german breeding value** for Brown Swiss is calculated as 50 % milk, 5 % beef and 45 % fitness. The bulls **AG Calibur** (147), **AG Vanilla** (146), **AG Valps** (144), **AG Vorneli** (143), **AG Viral** (142) and **AG Aragon** (141) show an overall breeding value of over 140 points.

Milk yield is represented with the highest percentage in the total breeding value. **Strong milk yield sires** with over +1,100 kg milk are **AG Calibur** (+1,339 kg milk), **AG Vanilla** (1,254 kg milk), **AG Venedig** (+1,145 kg milk), **AG Valps** (+1,133 kg milk), **AG Heimo** (+1,130 kg milk), **AG Vitobi PS** (+1,104 kg milk) and **AG Vorneli** (+1,102 kg milk).

We have paid more attention to **positive components** in our bull program, so that now with **AG Bacchus**, **AG Viral**, **AG Aragon**, **AG Volcano** and **AG Darwin Pp** five bulls are positive in this trait. **AG Vanilla** and **AG Calibur** are positive for at least one component trait. **AG Socrates PS** and **AG Valps** are characterized by almost neutral components.

In the Brown Swiss population, the teats become too short and too thin. For this reason, breeding values of 100 to 106 are aimed for in the traits **teat length** and **teat thickness**. These are also useful traits for selecting bulls for farms with automatic milking systems. The bulls **AG Venedig**, **AG Viral**, **AG Socrates PS**, **AG Valps**, **AG Pirol** and **AG Vitobi PS** achieve at least 100 points for both traits.

The **udder** is the capital of a dairy cow. The trend shows that udders are getting better and better. In the bull program we have nine bulls with over 115 points in the udder. **AG Valps** (122), **AG Pirol** (121), **AG Sound PS** (121), **AG Vanilla** (120), **AG Vitobi PS** (118), **AG Calibur** (117), **AG Heimo** (117), **AG Socrates PS** (115) and **AG Aragon** (115).

**Milking** too quickly has a negative impact on udder health. On the other hand, cows that milk too slowly disrupt the milking routine. The bulls **AG Socrates PS**, **AG Sion**, **AG Bison**, **AG Venedig**, **AG Aragon** and **AG Calibur** inherit a faster milk flow. The bull **AG Pirol** transmits somewhat slower.

The steep **hind legs** of the Brown Swiss are often criticized. **AG Aragon**, **AG Venedig** and **AG Darwin Pp** inherit slightly more rear angles.

Brown Swiss cows are getting taller and taller and therefore a medium-framed cow is desired. The bulls **AG Jakarta** (96), **AG Heimo** (100) and **AG Calibur** (102) produce small cows (**sacrum height**). The bulls **AG Viral** (115), **AG Bison** (116) and **AG Pirol** (119) produce large-framed cows.

Cows with a lot of **chest width** and **rump depth** are resistant. **AG Socrates PS**, **AG Sound PS**, **AG Vanilla**, **AG Valps**, **AG Viral**, **AG Aragon**, **AG Pirol**, **AG Bison** achieve over 105 points in both traits.

**Polled bulls** **AG Socrates PS**, **AG Sound PS**, **AG Vitobi PS**, **AG Dubai PS** and **AG Darwin Pp** are polled sires.

High **persistency** should prevent the lactation peak and thus a negative energy balance. The bulls **AG Valps** (119), **AG Calibur** (119), **AG Vorneli** (118), **AG Bison** (11), **AG Vanilla** (110) and **AG Dubai PS** (110) inherit a flat lactation curve.

The bulls **AG Volcano**, **AG Dubai PS**, **AG Pirol** and **AG Bison** have a tendency towards easy births due to a **good calving pattern**.

**Sexed semen** is available from many bulls. Unfortunately, however, not every bull or ejaculate is suitable for this process. Currently in stock at the station is sexed semen from the bulls **AG Calibur**, **AG Vanilla**, **AG Aragon**, **AG Vitobi PS**, **AG Volcano**, **AG Dubai PS**, **AG Salvador**, **AG Volkwein**, **AG Vasan PP**, **AG Veles Pp**, **AG Benz**, **AG Veltins PP**, **AG Balduin PS**, **AG Bachelor**, **AG Sound PS** and **AG Jakarta**. **AG Darwin Pp** will be available soon.



Picture 1 **AG VALPS** family, grand dam and dam  
Picture 2 **AG VALPS**

## Tu remixes the top

With Sinatra Tu Sg, another bull from the KIBA Farm from Sondrio IT takes the lead by overall breeding index. He pushes the solid Bender sons Huge and Brice on the following places.

As an outcross bull with a lot of production and different bloodlines, Sinatra was often used as a bull sire. You can see his profile again in various sons. So far, his two sons Tu and Sallwo, manage to return for second crop use.

### Milk and fitness

What stands out in this proof round are many reclassified bulls that score points with a lot of performance and fitness. Kiba Sinatra Tu Sg a Sinatra son out of Fact's full sister, takes the lead. With an overall breeding index of 1414, he is well ahead of his pursuers. His strengths clearly lie in performance and fitness. These are also the breeding focuses of this sire's farm of origin.

Brice and Huge, who have recently created a positive atmosphere in Brown Swiss breeding, impressively confirm their results. Both impress with over 1000 kg of milk, very positive fertility, and excellent conformation.

### Top bulls with over 1000 kg of milk

If you want to breed for milk, you can do this with the current available offering of offspring-tested bulls. Ten of the current top 20 bulls according to breeding value have a milk breeding value of 1000 kg milk and more. An absolute outcross bull is swinging from above. Visconti (Vassli x Valentino) passes on 1,499 kg of milk. He is followed by Sallwo with 1,354 kg and Sinatra with 1,290 kg.

### French genetics influencing the Brown Swiss population

For the young bulls, the trend is towards the 1500 mark in the overall breeding value. Pepe Sg, a Pactol son from Tu's full sister, is at the top of the current young bulls with 1474. He is line-bred as Pactole is a blower out of Fact Musolde.

Two French bulls follow in second and third place. Saphir, another Pactole son with lots of milk and fitness, is on the podium. He is followed by Titanium, a Noro son out of Nice Pennie.

French genetics is already well anchored in the Swiss population with O Malley. He increases with every breeding value estimate and today already has a breeding value of 1287. The Tu son Sting was used for contract matings. He comes from Noro's full sister and impresses with a breeding value of 1560. There were only a few straws of him in Switzerland.

Bürgler's Lordan URMI CH 120.1254.7392.2

LDC 91-95-96-96-97 EX 94

Ø 5 lact. 8'798 kg 4.38 % fat 3.58 % protein, 24 cell counts, SP 64

Owner & Breeder: Alois Bürgler, Leh-Laad, Nesslau, St. Gall

Photo: Keleki



Kiba Anibal MIOARA-ET, mother of bull Tu (Photo: Luca Nolli)

### Urmi spreads her genes in original breeding

Lordan Urmi is far ahead in the list based on overall breeding value. With a total breeding value of 1432, the performance cow remains almost untouched.

Phenotypically, it proves that her numbers are no coincidence. The cow classified EX 94 with 96 in the udder has an average performance of almost 8,800 kg with 4.38% fat and 3.58% protein. In terms of functional characteristics, she scores highly in terms of cell counts with an average of 24. Urmi also calved annually. With her 6th calf she even won a month of time.

So it doesn't come as surprise that her first son, Bürgler's Minor Morin, immediately established himself in the top group. With a breeding value of 1281, he is on second place behind the well-known allrounder Koni Killy, whose milk breeding value is positive again. He is also placed second on the top list of available bulls, ahead of Lordan and Orlando.

When it comes to the young bulls, it is noticeable that Urmi's other sons, Tiago and Omar, are on the top. You must be careful with the hereditary defect O1C, which Urmi passed on to Tiago and Morin.

There is a positive trend in the original population regarding kappa casein. In the top 10 original young animals in the available range, seven are AB, two are BB and one is AA.

