

Minutes
Northwest Dairy Advisory Committee
April 16, 2009

Present: Chuck Griffin, Kristy Salley, Charles Burford Dr. Charles Hutchison, Mark Williams and Brian Baiamonte and Marcia Griffin

The Dairy Advisory Committee met on April 16, 2009 at 11 a.m. at DeSoto Parish Extension Office in Grand Cane. Chuck Griffin Called the meeting to order.

Chuck Griffin discussed the purpose of having an advisory meeting. The Advisory Committee agreed that pasture management, ration balancing, mastitis control, dairy lagoon clean-out project and 4-H Dairy Youth work were programs that needed to be continued.

The committee members setup the program for the Northwest Louisiana Dairy Day. The 20th Annual Northwest LA Dairy Day will be held on Thursday, June 18, 2009 at The Dave Means Memorial 4-H Center in Grand Cane. The Committee suggested topics on the following:

1. DFA update – Donnie Fisher
2. Cost Share Programs Available to Dairy Farmers – Brain Baiamonte
3. Weed Control - ??

We will continue giving production and Quality Milk awards. However production awards will be limited to only RHA Clubs (17,000 RHA, 18,000 RHA, etc) and the committee agreed to have Marcia Griffin cater the meal.

Main issues discussed were;

- 1. Dairy Sustainability**
- 2. Milk Loss Income program**
- 3. Variation in commodity feed prices**
- 4. Low milk prices**
- 5. Dairy Production Best Management Practices**

After the meeting the group enjoyed a lunch prepared by Marcia Griffin and Sponsored by the Dairy Promotion Board.