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September - October 2004

Dairy Market News

Cary "Bill" Herndon
Department of Ag. Economics, Mississippi State University

August Advanced Class I Price Plunges $3.33/cwt.

The roller coaster ride that symbolizes milk prices and dairy markets over the past decade and especially in 2004 appears to have coasted past the peak of record high prices experienced during the months of May through July when Class I milk prices exceeded $20.00 per hundredweight (cwt.). Dairy markets are very nervous in the face of larger than expected milk supplies caused by mild summer temperatures and declining product demand resulting from a slowdown in the U.S. economy. Changing supply-demand conditions have most dairy traders and analysts searching for any and all reasons to cause and sustain price movements, either up or down. So, dairy farmers, processors and traders must be prepared for any positive or negative market news and/or conditions that may cause either a rally or downturn of milk prices. Once again, the August Class III Advanced skim milk price was the Class I mover (based on the value of skim milk used in cheddar cheese production) because it was greater than the corresponding Class IV price (representing skim milk value in butter and milk powder products). In this case, the USDA reports that the August 2004 Advanced Class III skim milk price was $7.55 per hundredweight (cwt.) compared to the Advanced Class IV Skim Milk price of $6.37 per cwt. The difference between these respective Class III and Class IV prices (after factoring in butterfat prices) resulted in a $1.14 per cwt. *higher* Class I base price ($14.62 versus $13.48). Thus, the USDA announced on July 23 that the August Advanced Class I "base" milk price would be $14.62 per cwt. (for 3.5% butterfat milk). After adding the $3.10 Class I price differential for the pricing zone which includes Atlanta to this "base" price, the Advanced Class I milk price for August 2004 was $17.72 per cwt. Producers in south Mississippi and southeast Louisiana can add another $.30 per cwt. bringing their Class I price to $18.02. Thus, the August Advanced Class I price represents a DECREASE of $3.33 per cwt. (-15.8%) below the corresponding July price of $21.05. Dairy producers need to remember that the Class I price will be an important, but not the only, factor influencing revenues derived from the sale of milk produced during the month of August. Since about 50-70 percent of Louisiana and Mississippi milk is usually processed into Class I products, settlement checks received in mid-September as the final payment for milk produced and sold in August will reflect this Class I utilization. This price will again result in zero ($0.00) Milk Income Loss Contract (MILC) payments for August.

Advanced Class I Milk Price @ 3.5% B.F.	Price per Cwt. in North Central MS Zone	Price Difference Versus August 2004	Percent Change Versus August 2004
August 2004	$17.72	——-	———
July 2004	$21.05	↓$3.33	↓15.8%
June 2004	$24.23	↓$6.51	↓26.9%
August 2003	$14.07	↑$3.65	↑25.9%
August 2002	$13.58	↑$4.14	↑30.5%

Market Conditions. UNCERTAINTY! This newsletter has attempted to describe the overall tone and direction of dairy markets over the past several months with the use of a single word. Dairy market analysts characterized the general atmosphere facing dairy farmers, processors and traders as being "uncertain." Cheese and butter prices moved in opposite directions during late July and early August where cheese prices improved with news of much hotter weather instigating lower milk output while butter prices declined significantly for no apparent supply-demand reasons. Dairy farmers had an opportunity to enjoy Class I milk prices exceeding $20 per cwt. for May, June and July but knew that these elevated levels could not be sustained for many months. Supply and demand fundamentals again pushed milk prices lower as a combination of three factors altered market conditions. First, consumers responded to the sharp increases in milk and dairy product prices initiated in May and reduced their consumption (or demand) of milk, cheese and butter. Second, growth of the U.S. economy slowed expectedly during the second quarter of 2004 from a projected growth rate of 4 -5% to a disappointing 3%; thus slowing demand for dairy products. Third, the early summer months of 2004 will be remembered as having very mild temperatures when the spring "flush" period of increased milk output (or supply) was sustained into June and early July. In fact, summer temperatures in the Upper Midwest have been the coolest in more than 90 years. However, summer heat and humidity has returned, especially in the West and Southwest and milk output and processing plant receipts have been curtailed noticeably since mid-July. While milk and dairy product prices have plunged by almost 30% since June, Class I milk prices for August will be $17.72 per cwt., which was greater than the corresponding price in all but 13 of the past 68 months. Thus, producers will continue to benefit from much-improved farm-level milk prices but will likely see their milk checks fall near $16 per cwt. when they get paid for their August milk output in mid-September. Product prices will probably see their usual upward trend as the hot, humid summer weather begins to curtail milk output and as schools return from their summer recesses. Once again, it is the opinion of this dairy economist that the market can sustain cheese prices near $1.60 per pound that should result in Class I milk prices around the $16.50-$17.50 per cwt. range. Class I milk prices are expected to decline 5-10% and be reported near $16.50 per cwt. for the Atlanta/Starkville zone during September. The USDA's June 30 Cold Storage report shows that total inventories of butter rose 5% between May and June but were 38% less than June 2003. On the other hand, commercial holdings of various types of natural cheeses on June 30 ranged between 11% less to 5% greater than May 31 totals and ranged between 10% fewer to 7% more than last June 30 inventories. However, government owned stocks of butter declined sharply by 99% while government cheese stocks were more than two times greater than last June. Hotter summer conditions are having a negative impact on milk production and the increased fluid milk use from reopening of schools should tighten milk supplies and support milk prices. Clearly, the market tone is "unsettled" as both cooperatives and processors struggle to comprehend how changing market conditions will influence prices. So, predicting milk and dairy product prices remains extremely challenging for the rest of this year because of conflicting market factors. Dairy farmers will remember 2004 as a year with not only record milk prices, but also with extreme price volatility. Overall it will be considered as a period when profitability was restored to dairy farming; at least temporarily.

Milk Production. Milk production once again declined in June 2004 for the 13th month in a row. Total U.S. milk output for the 2nd quarter production confirms that U.S. milk production fell for the fifth consecutive quarter. Mississippi milk production declined by almost 12%; while Louisiana milk production declined by 7.7%. Comparing June 2004 statistics to June 2003, U.S. milk output declined by 60 (-0.4%) million pounds because there were 85,000 (-0.9%) fewer cows in the U.S. herd. However, productivity per cow grew by 8 (+0.5%) pounds per cow; mirroring recent trends in increasing productivity per cow in the U.S. However, there are indications that the number of milk cows is beginning to reverse its declining trend. In fact, it is important to note that the national population of milking cows exceeded 9 million head during June after falling below this number from December 2003 through May 2004. Major western milk producing states continue to increase the number of milk cows on their dairy farms. California added 41,000 cows, Idaho added 15,000 cows, and New Mexico's added 13,000 cows. This means dairy cow numbers plunged by 154,000 head in the other 47 states. Monthly and quarterly milk production statistics are listed in the table below for selected states and the nation.

Comparing Specific TimePeriods, 2004 vs 2003	June Change in Production	2nd Quarter Change in Output Per Cow	2nd Quarter Change in Cow Numbers
U.S. Total	↓0.4%	↓0.6%	↓1.2%
California	↑1.9%	↑1.6%	↑2.1%
Wisconsin	↓2.0%	↓1.3%	↓1.2%
Idaho	↑2.5%	↑2.7%	↑4.2%
New Mexico	↑3.9%	↑2.0%	↑3.8%
Indiana	↑0.8%	↓0.8%	No Change
Florida	↑6.6%	↑4.4%	↓2.8%
Kentucky	↓3.3%	↓4.6%	↓7.6%
Virginia	↓4.9%	↓5.5%	↓11.3%
Texas	↑6.8%	↑6.2%	↓0.6%
Mississippi	Not Available	↓11.9%	↓12.9%
Louisiana	Not Available	↓7.7%	↓11.6%
Alabama	Not Available	↓4.3%	↓5.6%
11-State Southeast Region	Not Available	↓3.5%	↓6.1%

Forward Milk Pricing Opportunities

Milk price volatility is an often discussed topic that describes huge swings in farm milk prices from month to month. Such price volatility naturally causes tremendous uncertainty and financial risk for dairy farmers. Monthly milk price swings as large as 30 to 35% place great risk on milk producers' ability to manage their dairy business and plan for the future. Unfortunately, a farm milk pricing structure that relies heavily on the supply-demand of dairy products such as cheese, butter and milk powder will, in all likelihood, continue to experience such price volatility.

Therefore, dairy farmers can benefit from learning how to implement risk management tools to help alleviate the hazards of milk price volatility. During the past five years, several instruments have been developed and made available to dairy farmers that strive to manage price risk. Basically, there are three mechanisms enabling producers to price their milk into the future. First, most dairy cooperatives and handlers allow their producers to forward contract as little as 20,000 pounds of milk in a specified month at a price based on the corresponding month's futures contract settlement price. Second, futures contracts on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) are traded for Class III and Class IV milk and butter. Third, options on futures contracts are also traded on the CME for Class III and Class IV milk. Dairy farmers should be aware of the advantages and disadvantages of each of these options because the features of each option will influence whether and/or which option to implement. **Several workshops designed specifically for dairy farmers will be conducted this fall to provide information concerning these price risk management tools. Please call Bill Herndon at 662/325-7999 or Lamar Adams, Walthall County Extension Director, at 601/876-4021 for the dates, times and locations of these workshops.**

There appear to be several opportunities to establish a favorable price floor for milk sold during 2005 given the price levels of Class III futures contracts being traded on the CME in early August. The table below shows historical averages, high and lows, and current futures contract prices for Class III milk. The August 5 futures settlement prices for January and February 2005 contracts, shown in the right hand column below, were $1.00 to $1.50 greater than the 2000-2004 five-year average Class III USDA price; $2.50-$.300 more than the five-year lows; and about 30-cents greater than the 5-year high Class III milk prices. For example, the 5-year average Class III price for February was $10.60, the high was $11.89 and the low was $9.54 compared to the August 5 - February 2005 contract settlement price of $12.20. This indicates the current CME Class III futures contract could provide an excellent opportunity for dairy farmers to establish a price for their milk produced during the first months of 2005 that is higher than the 5-year average price. If you are interested in finding out more about forward contracting and pricing prospects, the Downes-O'Neill dairy brokerage firm can provide you with detailed information while advising and assisting you in evaluating risk management alternatives (phone: 800/456-3600). Downes-O'Neill also maintains an excellent website that provides a wealth of information about dairy markets and milk pricing for no costs at: http://www.dairy.nu/ http://www.dairynetwork.com/storefronts/downes.html and/or you can subscribe to their "Market Insider" to obtain the latest market news.

Class III Prices for 3.5% Fat	2000-2004 Average Class III Prices	2000-2004 High Class III Prices	2000-2004 Low Class III Prices	August 5 Class III Futures Prices
January	**$10.66**	**$11.87**	**$9.78**	**$12.10**
February	**$10.60**	**$11.89**	**$9.54**	**$12.20**
March	**$11.04**	**$14.49**	**$9.11**	**$12.10**
April	**$12.28**	**$19.66**	**$9.41**	**$12.18**
May	**$12.86**	**$20.58**	**$9.37**	**$12.18**
June	**$12.40**	**$17.68**	**$9.46**	**$12.20**
July	**$12.42**	**$15.46**	**$9.33**	**$12.60**

Get Calves Off to a Good Start

Cathy Williams, Professor
Dept. of Dairy Science, LSU AgCenter

With calving season approaching, it is time to make sure that a good calf management program is in place. These calves are the future lactating cows on the farm. Ensuring the health and well-being of these newborn calves is vital to the success of a dairy operation. The first important management practice in a calf management program is dipping the newborn's navel in 7% iodine to prevent navel infections. The second important management practice is providing colostrum to the neonatal calf. Colostrum is the first and most important feed given to a newborn calf. It is the primary source of nutrients for the calf and also provides essential and irreplaceable antibodies. **True colostrum is obtained from the first milking only.** Milk from later milkings is inferior to colostrum in nutritional and immunological value.

A neonatal calf is born with an immature or ***passive immune system***. These animals are not able to produce antibodies when challenged with a disease causing pathogen. ***Active immunity***, the ability to produce antibodies in response to exposure to a disease, is acquired and begins to develop after the first two months of life. Therefore, the neonatal dairy calf relies on ***passive immunity*** to fight diseases during this early part of life. ***Passive immunity*** is obtained by absorption of the antibodies present in colostrum through the wall of the gut. Without this passive transfer of antibodies, or immunoglobulins, into the blood, the calf will be at greater risk for many diseases.

There are three essential factors to consider in colostrum feeding and management: **Quality**, **Quantity** and **Time**.

Colostrum quality is determined by its antibody concentration. Antibodies found in colostrum are produced by the dam. Antibody levels in the dam are determined by the diseases she is exposed to and by the vaccinations given to her. It is best to use colostrum from the farm where the calves will be raised in order to provide antibodies to diseases the calves may actually be exposed to on the farm. If calves are purchased and brought to the farm, a supply of frozen colostrum will greatly enhance the immune status of these young animals. If possible, it is best to feed colostrum from older cows since they have been exposed to more disease organisms and have colostrum with higher antibody concentrations than first calf heifers. Colostrum quality can be determined with an instrument called a colostrometer that measures antibody concentration. Colostrometers are inexpensive, easy to use, and are readily available from veterinary or farm supply dealers. **A minimum colostrometer reading of 50-60 grams/liter of antibodies is considered adequate quality colostrum.** As a last resort, a rule of thumb for assessing colostrum quality is the "18 pound rule". According to this "rule", if a cow gives more than 18 pounds of colostrum in the first milking it probably is inferior in quality. Regardless of the method, colostrum quality should be assessed when feeding the newborn calf. Any extra colostrum, if determined to be high quality, can be frozen for use when needed later.

The next factor to consider when feeding colostrum is quantity. The amount of colostrum will play a critical role in the transfer of passive immunity to the newborn calf. The first colostrum fed to the neonatal calf should equal 4 to 5% of its birth weight. On average, 3-4 quarts of high quality colostrum should be fed as soon as possible after birth. Small calves may not be able to hold 3-4 quarts at one feeding. If not, then feed 2 quarts at the first feeding followed by 2 more quarts 4 to 6 hours later. All calves should consume 12-15% of their birth weight or 6-8 quarts of colostrum within the first 24 hours of life.

Finally, the third and most critical factor to consider in the management of the newborn calf is the timing of first colostrum feeding. As mentioned previously, the newborn calf lacks the ability to produce antibodies and relies on passive transfer of maternal immunoglobulins through colostrum. The small intestine of the newborn calf is able to absorb large intact protein molecules such as antibodies immediately after birth. However, this ability to absorb antibodies only lasts approximately 24 hours. The highest amount of antibody absorption occurs during the first 4 hours and declines steadily over the next 20 hours. After 24 hours, gut closure occurs and leaves the calf unable to absorb any antibodies. Therefore, it is extremely critical to provide the calf with colostrum as soon as possible after birth. The ideal management practice is to feed colostrum within 30 minutes to an hour after the calf is born. The earlier the colostrum is fed to the newborn calf, the greater its chance of receiving the proper amount of antibodies for successful passive transfer of immunity. The gut can also absorb bacteria during this time, and this puts colostrum deprived calves in danger of becoming very ill very quickly.

One question that often arises is whether or not to leave the calf with its dam. While there are some benefits to leaving the calf with its dam, there are also some disadvantages. When the calf is left to suckle, the producer can only assume that the calf received enough colostrum to provide sufficient nutrients and antibodies. This assumption may be wrong, especially in the case of first calf heifers. Additionally, the quality of the colostrum cannot be determined and may not be adequate, again especially in the case of first calf heifers. Also, the timing of the first colostrum feeding will not be known unless the calf is observed nursing.

Calves left to nurse their dams are also at greater risk of disease because they may suckle dirty udders. Bacteria on the udder will be consumed by the calf and can be absorbed by the small intestine, thus posing a greater possibility of disease. Finally, calves left with their dams for greater than 12 hours may butt and damage the udders which may lead to problems such as mastitis.

Leaving calves on the dam may sound like a great way to save labor. In truth it places both the cow and calf, especially the calf, at much greater risk of disease and even death. If you choose to leave the calf with the dam, it is still a good idea to inspect the colostrum and feed it to the calf. The will ensure the calf gets the adequate quality and quantity of colostrum at the right time to achieve the maximum possible ***passive immunity***.

In some cases, the calf may refuse to suckle and won't drink the colostrum offered. Since the calf must consume the proper amount of good quality colostrum as soon after birth as possible, it may be necessary to force feed the calf. An esophageal feeder or stomach tube may be needed to provide colostrum to the calf at the first few feedings. Proper use of these feeding instruments is critical in order to place the colostrum into the stomach and not the lungs. However, the risk of not providing the calf with the proper amount of high quality colostrum far outweighs the possible danger of improper use of the esophageal feeder. The calf must have colostrum whether consumed willingly or force fed. Without colostrum a calf's chances of survival are greatly reduced.

One final note: calf feeding utensils such as buckets and bottles must be cleaned thoroughly immediately after every feeding. Any milk or milk replacer residue remaining on the equipment will allow bacteria to grow and can become a significant source of infection at the next feeding. Cleaning these utensils doesn't mean just rinsing them out immediately prior to using them for feeding. Proper cleaning means thoroughly scrubbing feeding utensils in warm, soapy water then rinsing, preferably with a sanitizing agent, immediately after feeding; then positioning them to dry.

A successful heifer rearing program begins with the proper management of the newborn calf. The quality, quantity, and timing of colostrum are critical for passive transfer of immunity to the neonatal calf. Using recommended management practices for feeding colostrum to the newborn calf will get these young animals off to a good start in life.

Changes in the Dairy Science Faculty and Staff at the LSU AgCenter

There is an old saying 'Change is the one *constant* fact of life' and it is certainly true in the names and faces of the LSU AgCenter dairy faculty and staff during the past few years. Many familiar names and faces with a lifetime of service to the dairy industry have retired and moved on to other challenges in their lives. While no one can take their places, several new faces have been hired to continue their work in supporting the dairy industry in Louisiana. We felt it was important to provide a brief introduction of each so everyone in the dairy industry could begin to get acquainted with the new AgCenter scientists, extension agents, teachers and managers who will be supporting the dairy industry in the coming years.

Hill Farm Research Station

Mr. Mike Berry, Dairy Herdsman

Mike is a native of Nacogdoches, Texas with a B.S. degree in animal/dairy science from Stephen F. Austin University. Mike was the owner/operator of Berry's Dairy and Beef Farm from 1990-1997. He has been employed for the past several years as the farm manager of the beef, dairy, poultry, and swine farms at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia, AK. Mike will be assuming responsibilities as the herdsman and manager of the Hill Farm dairy.

Southeast Research Station

Dr. Vinicius Moreira, Assistant Professor

Dr. Moreira is originally from Minas Gerais State, located in the Southeastern Region of Brazil where he grew up working on a small, family-owned dairy farm. He has a Veterinary degree as well as Master's and Ph.D. degrees in dairy production and dairy nutrition from the Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil. He worked with Dr. Larry Satter at the University of Wisconsin on corn silage feeding management practices for dairy cows as part of his PhD degree. He also worked with Dr. Satter on a post-doctoral research program where he examined methods of estimating nitrogen loss from dairy manure under different management systems. His research at the Southeast Research Station will focus on management alternatives to mitigate the loss of nutrients from dairy operations without compromising cost and level of production.

LSU Department of Dairy Science

Dr. Kayanush Aryana, Assistant Professor

Dr. Aryana is a native of India who came to LSU via Mississippi State University where he completed a PhD and did post-doctoral research in food science and dairy foods technology. He also served as a post-doctoral researcher with the Center for Food Safety and Quality Enhancement at the University of Georgia. Dr. Aryana's training is in dairy foods processing, dairy foods analysis and dairy ingredient functionality. His research is focused on the physical, chemical, microbiological, sensory and micro-structural characteristics of functional dairy foods and new dairy products. He will also teach a couple of courses: Milk and Dairy Foods and Quality Assurance for the Food Industries.

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Dr. Gale Bateman, Assistant Professor

Dr. Bateman is a native of Virginia. He has a B.S. degree in dairy science from Virginia Tech; a Master's degree from the University of Missouri and a PhD in nutrition from Clemson University. His research will focus on protein supplementation for lactating dairy cows and developing models to more accurately predict nutrient flow in the small intestines. He also teaches three courses; Applied Animal Feed Formulation, Advanced Dairy Nutrition and Rumen Physiology and Metabolism.

Dr. Charles Boenecke, Assistant Professor

Dr. Boenecke is a native of Pride, LA. He has B.S., Master's and PhD degrees in Dairy Foods Technology from the LSU Department of Dairy Science. He served as manager of the LSU creamery for years before becoming an Assistant Professor of Dairy Processing Technology.

Mr. Randy Morrell, Dairy Herdsman

Randy is a native of Desoto Parish where he grew up on a family-owned dairy farm. He received a B.S. degree in Dairy Production from LSU in 1983. Since that time he has worked in the dairy industry in Desoto Parish. He has worked for over 15 years as a DHIA field technician, owned his own dairy, and worked for several dairymen in the area. Randy will be assuming responsibility as the herdsman and farm manager of the LSU campus dairy farm.

Dr. Cathy Williams, Associate Professor

Dr. Williams is a native of Bogalusa, LA. She has a B.S. degree in Dairy Production from LSU; a Master's degree from the University of Georgia and a PhD in Animal/Dairy Science from Auburn University. Dr. Williams teaches several classes including Domestic Animal Endocrinology and Advanced Dairy Management. Her research focuses on metabolic and growth processes of dairy calves and heifers and glucose metabolism in dairy cows. She is also married to Mark Williams, our DHIA Fieldman.

Mr. Mark Williams, DHIA Fieldman

Mark is a native of Denham Springs, LA and has a B.S. degree in Dairy Production from LSU. He worked for several years as herdsman for a large, commercial dairy in Georgia, as assistant manager of the beef cattle research unit at the University of Georgia and as manager of the Auburn University Beef Research and Bull Testing Units.

Welcome to all these new AgCenter employees!

LSU Dairy Science Club Recognized at National Meeting

Several LSU Dairy Science Club members, along with club advisor Dr. Cathy Williams, recently attended the joint annual meetings of the American Dairy Science Association (ADSA), the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS), and the Poultry Science Association (PSA) in St. Louis, Missouri on July 25-29, 2004. The club members attended the meetings of the American Dairy Science Association Student Affiliate Division (ADSA-SAD). The ADSA-SAD is a division of ADSA that works to develop leadership and promote scholarship among students interested in the dairy industry; and to encourage students toward careers in dairy science. Students representing dairy science clubs from 15 universities across the United States were present for the meetings.

During the meetings, the students participated in a tour of the Monsanto Company research facilities, a dairy quiz bowl, business meetings, undergraduate paper competitions, a careers symposium, and an awards luncheon. The students also had the opportunity to attend a St Louis Cardinals' baseball game and see some of the local attractions in St Louis.

Bridget Lyons and Justin Roberts competed in the paper presentation contests. Bridget placed second in the dairy foods paper presentation contest with her presentation "An Industry Approach to Increasing the Consumption of Dairy Products" and Justin presented a dairy production paper titled "Managing an Ovulation Synchronization Program using PCDART". The club also participated in the dairy quiz bowl competition. Justin Roberts was elected as 1st Vice President of the ADSA-SAD, and Dr. Cathy Williams was elected as 1st Year Advisor for the ADSA-SAD. During the awards luncheon the LSU Dairy Science Club was awarded 3rd place in the national dairy science clubs chapter contest.

New Dairy Science Students for Fall 2004

The LSU Department of Dairy Science would like to welcome the Fall 2004 freshman students with majors in either dairy production or dairy foods technology.

Dairy Production Majors

Mary Ann Blades, Kentwood, LA
Kathleen Bridges, Haynesville, LA
Jessica Downing, Hammond, LA
Jessie Hoover, Tickfaw, LA
Ashly Pitre, Thibodaux, LA
Kathy Jo Thompson, Folsom, LA

Dairy Foods Technology Majors

Christopher Casey, Kentwood, LA
Peter Fischer, Pearl River, LA
Sara Hunsucker, Baton Rouge, LA
Edwin Nolan III, Baker, LA
Allison Suber, New Orleans, LA

Upcoming Dairy Events

September 28 – LSU 4-H Dairy Awards Trip Selection Show – Baton Rouge

October 14 – Hill Farm Field Day, Hill Farm Research Station, Homer, La

October 15 – Open Dairy Show, Mississippi State Fair, Jackson, Ms

October 23 – Open Dairy Show, Washington Parish Fair, Franklinton, La

October 30 – Open Dairy Show, State Fair of Louisiana, Shreveport, La

October 31 – Junior Dairy Show, State Fair of Louisiana, Shreveport, La

November 4 – Mississippi/Louisiana Dairy Herd Management Conf., Tylertown, Ms

November 6 – Dixieland Holstein & Non-Holstein Open Dairy Shows, Tylertown, Ms

November 10-11 – Louisiana Dairy Fieldmen's Assoc. Meeting, Baton Rouge, La

November 16-17 – Southeast Dairy Herd Management Conf., Macon, Ga

Web Site of the Month

The University of Wisconsin Dairy Extension Programs has an excellent web site with a host of articles and presentations on various dairy management topics such as genetics, nutrition, milking quality and mastitis control, financial management, decision making tools, etc. The **U**niversal **R**esource **L**ocator (URL) or web address for the site is: **http://www.wisc.edu/dysci/uwex**/.

TOP HERDS BY AVERAGE TEST DAY ENERGY CORRECTED MILK (ALL COWS)

NAME	DATE	BR	COWS	DIM	ECM	FAT%	PRO%	RHA
UDDER FRESH	7/5	H	109	179	54.0	3.4	3.2	17590
LSU DAIRY	7/13	H	67	233	51.9	3.6	2.9	19694
SE LA EXP STATION	7/23	H	209	202	50.1	3.8	3.0	22215
J PAUL ALFORD	7/5	H	113	192	48.8	3.5	2.8	20648
BOBBY GOINGS	7/5	H	110	200	45.2	3.5	3.0	17523
BILLY ANDREWS	7/15	H	102	244	45.1	4.1	3.1	18627
CIRCLE G FARMS	7/8	H	151	185	44.7	3.4	2.9	17721
KARIE AND BRAD BLADES	7/7	H	173	316	44.4	3.6	3.1	17955
JOHN FAUNCE JR DAIRY	7/6	H	235	185	44.1	3.1	3.0	18408
MARVIN FLETCHER	7/8	H	180	233	44.0	3.6	2.9	20207
LADD BLADES	7/15	H	196	199	43.9	3.4	3.0	18488
VICTOR WOMACK	7/11	H	102	150	43.8	3.6	3.0	12506
FARMER'S DAIRY	7/7	H	42	251	41.1	3.3	2.9	18976
O B MITCHELL	7/26	X	55	165	41.0	4.1	3.1	17046
CLINTON STEVENS	7/7	H	121	233	40.9	3.5	3.0	16101
LEESFIELD DAIRY FARM	7/6	H	81	219	40.1	3.3	3.0	16801
BROWN DAIRY FARM	7/20	H	183	239	40.0	3.4	3.1	16485
M & B DAIRY FARM INC.	7/29	H	131	198	39.4	3.4	3.1	13892
RAYMOND SCHMIDT	7/8	H	82	245	39.1	3.1	2.9	16380
C JOHNSON & W LITWILLER	7/21	H	104	217	38.7	3.2	2.9	21903
FORTENBERRY & FORTENBERRY	7/22	H	132	169	38.2	3.4	3.0	15251
ROBERT POTTS	7/21	H	154	233	38.2	3.1	3.1	16098
GALEN NIGHTINGALE	7/20	H	74	278	38.0	3.4	3.0	20291
LANNY CONERLY	7/15	H	168	194	37.5	3.8	2.9	14021
NOLAN D ALFORD	7/11	H	120	193	36.0	3.6	3.1	13724

TOP HERDS BY AVERAGE TEST DAY ENERGY CORRECTED MILK (ALL COWS)

NAME	DATE	BR	COWS	DIM	ECM	FAT%	PRO%	RHA
SE LA EXP STATION	8/20	H	213	234	51.3	4.1	3.2	22299
LSU DAIRY	8/18	H	69	297	51.0	3.8	3.1	19687
EUGENE ROBERTSON	8/23	H	156	288	44.4	3.3	3.4	20133
LADD BLADES	8/17	H	197	220	44.1	3.6	3.2	18466
J PAUL ALFORD	8/2	H	111	241	43.8	3.1	3.0	20803
BOBBY GOINGS	8/9	H	109	212	43.8	3.8	3.1	17354
RUSSELL AND RUSTY CREEL	8/10	H	80	197	43.3	3.6	2.8	16765
CLIFFORD CHAMPLIN	8/26	H	196	257	42.7	4.0	3.7	20052
CIRCLE G FARMS	8/13	H	149	274	41.9	3.5	3.2	18143
GALEN NIGHTINGALE	8/18	H	83	245	41.9	3.0	3.0	20119
FARMER'S DAIRY	8/4	H	43	278	41.3	3.5	2.9	18949
MARVIN FLETCHER	8/11	H	184	222	40.9	3.4	3.0	20190
KARIE AND BRAD BLADES	8/4	H	173	327	40.8	3.5	3.1	17881
ROBERT POTTS	8/23	H	150	253	40.6	4.1	3.5	16249
RODNEY HOLDEN	7/27	H	99	186	39.8	4.3	3.0	15110
VICTOR WOMACK	8/20	H	102	216	39.4	3.7	3.1	13182
JOHN FAUNCE JR DAIRY	8/3	H	239	214	38.9	3.6	2.9	18572
PHILLIP ROBERTS	8/26	H	154	238	38.6	3.7	3.3	15670
RAYMOND SCHMIDT	8/11	H	84	231	38.4	3.2	2.9	16654
MARK WASKOM	8/24	H	94	279	37.6	3.8	3.5	16605
CLINTON STEVENS	8/10	H	115	267	37.4	3.6	3.1	16241
DUSTY SCHILLING	7/31	H	96	232	37.2	3.0	2.9	18470
C JOHNSON & W LITWILER	8/18	H	104	258	36.1	3.5	3.0	21829
JEFF & MARY ADDISON	8/11	J	55	282	35.6	4.4	3.6	11879
FORTENBERRY & FORTENBERRY	8/18	H	133	186	34.9	3.7	3.0	15295

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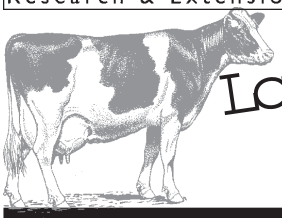

Louisiana Dairy Digest

Your Herd Management Resource

Contact your county agent
for more information on any
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