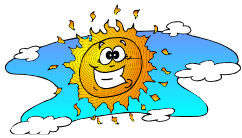


## Dealing with Heat Stress in Dairy Cows

Alleviating heat stress is critical to milk production. Heat stress from high environmental temperatures can be compounded by mistakes in managing and feeding the cows.



Water is your first concern during periods of high temperatures.

Water's physical properties, heat conductivity and latent heat of vaporization, help transfer heat from the body of the animal to the environment.

Dry matter intake of lactating cattle is affected when ambient temperatures are outside of the cows "comfort zone" (41 to 68 F). When ambient temperatures

increase beyond 68 F, the cow typically goes off feed. Dry matter intake can decrease by 0.17 lb for each degree above 68 F. Total intake and milk production may decrease by more than 25%.

Water requirements parallel the increase in ambient temperature. As the temperature rises from 86 to 95 F, water intake may increase from 21 to 32 gallons.

Higher producing cows are more prone to suffer from heat stress because they generate more heat as a result of their higher feed intake and thus will require more drinking water.

To be continued on page 2

New World News  
A publication of Vreba-Hoff Dairy Development

Volume 5, Issue 4

August 2005

### Cull Cows

Call Scott Upton of NFO (740-517-2577) if you want to sell cull cows. They will pick up any size cow, send settlement sheet with live weight, hanging weight, price per pound and yield. Similar to Dutch system.

### Calves pick up

Midwest Veal wants to purchase your bull calves directly off the farm. Call Dan Stutzman at 517-673-4955 for service and price call.

### Children's Passports

If you are traveling to the USA, all children, regardless of age, need their own passport. Children can not travel to the US if they are named in their parents' passport.

## Market Update

The Mideast Federal Milk Marketing Order, which includes Michigan, Ohio and the majority of Indiana, milk prices are shown to the right.

For daily milk market information, visit: [www.dairy.com](http://www.dairy.com) and go to the "Dairy Reports" section.

\*The Class I price is adjusted based on location and will range from \$15.69 to \$16.19 in the Mideast Order.

| 2005 Milk Prices<br>(announced on August 5, 2005) |                                     |                            |
|---|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Class of Milk                                     | Price per 100 pounds (or 45.36 kg.) | Change from Previous Month |
| I Fluid Milk for drinking                         | \$16.09                             | +\$ .27                    |
| II Soft products: yogurt, cream cheese            | \$13.79                             | +\$ .73                    |
| III Cheese  | \$14.35                             | +\$ .43                    |
| IV Butter, powder milk                            | \$13.17                             | +\$ .84                    |

# Meeting with US EPA is "Good Start"

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Representatives of Ohio's livestock industry met with officials of the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Region 5 office in June. Goal of the meeting was to develop a working relationship with the US EPA and engage in a dialogue in a respectful manner. According to David White, director of commodity relations for Ohio Farm Bureau Federation (OFBF), the meeting was a very good start. He believes US EPA has a better understanding of "where we are coming from". During the meeting OFBF Executive Vice President Jack Fisher asked about the operating structure of the US EPA to get a better understanding of the agency and find out whom to contact. Ohio Livestock Coalition (OLC) did not know who to contact after the US EPA unexpectedly inspected dairy farms in northwest Ohio. Jack Fisher told the US EPA that the federal inspections appeared to be "very subjective". The answer was that



the decision to inspect a farm is warranted in emergency situations or if an operation is very large or complex. Fisher encouraged the US EPA to be more transparent and tell them what they are doing.

The group also talked about National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. OLC and several of its member organizations, have appealed the issuance of Ohio EPA's general NPDES permit for CAFO's. Manure application was another hot topic of the discussion.

The overall impression of this meeting was that it was a good start. White said "you can't just have one meeting and solve all the livestock industry's challenges".

Source: Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

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## Dealing with Heat Stress in Dairy Cows

Continued from page 1

Close confinement in the holding pen contributes to heat stress. You might be able to cool your cows by a combination of air movement (fans) and water or shade.

Heat is produced as a result of microbial fermentation in the reticulo-rumen. Low quality, stemmy forages generate more heat of fermentation inside the animal, contributing to the animal's total heat load.

Heat is used to maintain body temperature when ambient temperatures are low (below 40 F). But when ambient temperatures are high the cow needs to maintain its body temperature within biological limits compatible with life.

The cow's options are limited. She can drink more fresh water (water evaporation from the body dissipates heat). She can look for cool spots and places with good air circulation, or she can decrease her dry matter intake. High quality forages are digested faster and result in less heat being

produced. So, whenever feed intake decreases due to heat stress, consider enriching the ration. Energy is a particular concern, as most of it is derived from fermentation of forages within the rumen. Increasing the energy density might require greater amounts of concentrate and/or byproducts.

But keep in mind that shifting the grain/forage ratio may increase the risk of not having enough rumen "scratch factor" to optimize rumination.

Sweating aids in heat dissipation, and sodium and potassium are secreted in sweat. When environmental temperatures are above 86 F, make sure that diets contain at least 0.25 lb of white salt per cow per day.

Alleviating heat stress in dairy cattle is a challenge in every hot summer. Optimum nutrient balances, highly digestible feeds and ample supplies of fresh, clean water, shade and ventilation, will go far toward keeping your cows comfortable and their milk production up.

Source: SDSU College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences

## ODA takes Action

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The Ohio Department of Agriculture announced a \$212,000 civil penalty to Ohio Fresh Eggs. The fine is for failing to comply with the terms and conditions of its operating permits for its facilities. The enforcement actions are primarily dealing with the Insect and Rodent Control Plan.

"The Ohio Department of Agriculture is actively working with the state Attorney General's office to help assure that all large permitted livestock and poultry farms are well managed and in strict compliance with state laws that protect the public and the environment", Fred Dailey, Ohio Agriculture Director said.

Source: Ohio Farm Bureau Federation

## Air Compliance Agreement

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More than 2,000 animal feeding operations have signed agreements for EPA's air compliance initiative. Sign up ended August 12th, but the agency is still continuing to process agreements postmarked with that date.

Many of the companies that signed up have several farms that will come under the agreement. Applicants originate from more than 37 states across the US and include representation from the pork, egg layers, meat birds, and dairy industries. After EPA makes an official determination as to whether all types of animals are adequately represented, the agency will request approval from EPA's Environmental Appeals Board (EAB).

Source: US Environmental Protection Agency

## New Production Deduction For Farmers

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By: Jeff Bushey, Nietzke & Faupel, PC

As you may have read, there is a new deduction added to the tax law beginning in 2005. This new deduction is available to all businesses that manufacture, produce, grow or extract property within the U.S. It begins at a modest 3% of net income for the years 2005 and 2006, but then moves to 6% for three years and finally reaches 9% in 2010 and after. Dairy farmers qualify for this new deduction.



For most dairy farms, we expect that this new subtraction will be a relatively straight forward calculation that is simply part of the tax return preparation. In most cases,

it should not be necessary to undertake any special planning or recordkeeping. However, there are two situations where some ag producers will need to take special action.

### The Wage Limit

This new deduction is limited to 50% of the business' qualifying wages for the year. Recent guidance from the IRS indicates that only wages subject to payroll taxes count for this limit. Since most large dairy operations pay a significant amount of wages this limitation should have no impact on their production deduction.

### Non-qualifying Activities

While growing and manufacturing activities qualify for this new deduction, providing services to others, as well as retailing and wholesaling activities, do not qualify. Examples of non-qualifying activities would include significant trucking/grain hauling services for other producers, or the purchase and resale of seed or chemicals. If these non-qualifying activities represent over 5% of gross receipts for the year, that portion of your net income after allocation of expenses, must be segregated from your other farming activities, it is important to keep your books and records in a manner that allows easy identification of the net income attributable to the non-qualifying activity.

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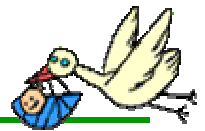
Ohio and Indiana Farm  
Bureau Federation would  
like to invite you to their

**Livestock Industry: Issues &  
Trends Conference** on Tuesday,  
**September 6, 2005**. The  
conference will take place at the  
Marriott Hotel, 305 E. Washington  
Center Road, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

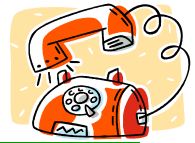
The conference will focus on  
economic, environmental and social  
issues that are significantly  
impacting livestock farms.

Please call Amy Hurst (Ohio) at  
614-246-8262 or Mike Baise  
(Indiana) at 317-692-7833 for  
registration.

## New Arrival



Congratulations to Jaap  
and Alma van Erk on the birth of  
their son Mark! Mark was born on  
July 26th and joins big brothers  
Corné, Johan and Jason.



## EPA Hotlines

Attached with this newsletter  
please find a list of Tri-State  
Emergency Response contractors  
who are trained and have the  
equipment to respond to an  
environmental spill. Remember:  
**EPA has to be notified within 24  
hours of a spill.** The list of  
contacts work on a contract basis.

Following are the Emergency Spill  
Hotline Numbers:

### Ohio EPA

Emergency Response Spill Hotline  
(notify within 24 hours of spill):  
1-800-282-9378

### Ohio EPA

Emergency Response Coordinator  
Dave Schildt office: 419-373-3041  
Cell: 419-351-3650

### Michigan

Pollution Emergency Alerting  
System (PEAS):  
1-800-292-4706

### Indiana

IDEM Spill Line  
(notify within 2 hours of spill):  
1-888-233-7745

## Announcements



The Ohio State University  
Extension will host a **Fly  
Control in Livestock Facilities**  
training. The training will take  
place on **August 23, 2005 from  
8:00-5:00** at the Department of  
Animal Sciences in Columbus.  
Registration costs are \$75.00.  
Please contact Steve Moeller at  
614-688-3686 or e-mail him at  
[moeller.29@osu.edu](mailto:moeller.29@osu.edu) if you need more  
information.



**Silage for Dairy Farms,  
Growing, Harvesting,  
Storing, and Feeding, A  
Conference for Dairy  
Producers and their  
Advisors** will be held **January  
23-25, 2006** in the  
Radisson Penn Harris Hotel and  
Convention Center in Camp Hill,  
Pennsylvania. The conference will  
focus on silage management for  
improved profitability and reduced  
environmental impact. Over 35  
speakers will share their knowledge  
and answer your questions about  
growing, harvesting, storage,  
feeding, and nutrient management.  
Silage for Dairy Farms will interest  
dairy producers and their employees,  
producer advisors, veterinarians, etc.  
For more information about the  
program contact NRAES,  
Cooperative Extension at  
607-255-7654 or e-mail to  
[NRAES@CORNELL.EDU](mailto:NRAES@CORNELL.EDU)



The **2005 Manure Science  
Review** will focus on  
"Liquid-Solid Separation"  
and will be held on **August 31, 2005**  
at the Ohio Department of  
Agriculture, 8995 East Main Street,  
Reynoldsburg. Topics will include  
crop rotation; water management;  
economics; mechanical, gravity, and  
belt systems; phosphorus; and  
separating swine manure. The  
program will be held from 9:00 am -  
3:00 pm and the pre-registration fee  
of \$35 is due by August 24 (\$60 for  
walk-ins). For more information,  
contact Mary Wicks at 330-202-  
3533 or [wicks.14@osu.edu](mailto:wicks.14@osu.edu).