

High Standards for Dairies

In a recent letter to the editor of the Columbus Dispatch, Fred Dailey, Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture states that the state of Ohio can evaluate risks to well water. Dailey answers a question posed in the Columbus newspaper.

Dailey writes: "since the department took over permitting and inspecting CAFOs in August 2002, there have been strict, not minimal, rules to regulate the timing and rate of manure application, as well as the location, weather and soil conditions." He also states that for the first time, specialized agriculture inspectors enforce regulations, developed with the

environmental community, that far exceed even federal standards and are based on sound science. According to Dailey "dairies are the most regulated farms in the state" and "no manure lagoon constructed to our standards has ever failed and contaminated the ground waters of the state."

He concludes by saying "not only can the state evaluate the risks to well water, we have the highest standards of any state in the country and employ strict oversight of large livestock and poultry farms every day."

Source: Columbus Dispatch

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Check your dairy knowledge by taking this quick dairy quiz.

Holy Cow:

- ☺ An exclamation made famous by sportscaster Harry Caray
- ☺ A divine bovine
- ☺ A cow with holes

Cowlick:

- ☺ A show of affection from your favorite Holstein
- ☺ A confection passed out to trick-or-treating cows
- ☺ A tuft of unruly hair

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 and go to the "Dairy Reports" section.

*The Class I price is adjusted based on location and will range from \$15.50 to \$16.00 in the Mideast Order.

2005 Milk Prices (announced on September 30, 2005)		
Class of Milk	Price per 100 pounds (or 45.36 kg.)	Change from Previous Month
I Fluid Milk for drinking	\$15.90	-\$.74
II Soft products: yogurt, cream cheese	\$14.35	+\$.40
III Cheese	\$14.30	+\$.70
IV Butter, powder milk	\$13.75	+\$.31

Cowlick: C
Holy Cow: A

Answers:

Fly Control on Dairy Farms

By Monte Tucker, Vreba-Hoff Dairy Development, LLC

I attended a presentation at OSU on Fly Control featuring Jim Arends, Ph. D. as the guest speaker. He is the president of JABB of the Carolinas, INC. He is one of the leading fly control consultants in the US. He has testified at over 60 legal hearings in fly nuisance cases. A cd with the complete fly control presentation is available at your request. Please contact Francine at 419-337-5000 to get a copy.

Across the country, dairies are taking steps to control flies. Following are a few of the major highlights about fly control.

- ◆ Have a plan
 - Site survey - Equipment needs and availability
 - Know your choices for products and where they fit and how they perform
- ◆ Start early
 - Don't wait until the problem is severe. The flies you see today started 7 to 80 days ago (and there are that many more coming)
- ◆ Control program
 - Know your options before you start
 - Have realistic expectations
 - Know what a product can do under the current conditions
 - Know when biological control is important and when it is not
 - It can take a minimum of 21 days (if everything is perfect) to control a fly problem
- ◆ Housefly life cycle
 - The housefly has a 21 day cycle. Fly development is based on temperature. Fly development at 85° F is considerably more than at 65° F
 - Fly development can continue after temperature drops. Manure piles generate a lot of heat. It can be very comfortable inside for the flies

- ◆ Flies on the dairy (types)
 - House fly, deer, horse, face, dump, fruit, stable, culicodics, blow flies, sewer and psycodia

- ◆ Manure Management
 - Flies like to lay eggs in any rotting, moist, material such as manure, feed, straw, hay, etc. They most often are found on what we call the edge effect. This is where the temperature is more likely to be in the livability range. It can get too hot further into the piles.



- ◆ Examples of edges
 - End of concrete, settling ponds, rainwater runoff areas, manure piles, near feeding stations, both hay and grain
 - Calf hutches poorly managed are the number one breeder of flies
- If you add straw or hay for bedding, your fly problem will explode
- Keeping your production areas as clean as possible will eliminate much of the breeding area reducing the livability factor.

- ◆ Controls
 - Consider biological and/or chemical controls

Note that most flies only travel 1/2 - 1 mile in range.

To recap a good fly management program:

- ◆ Know your pests
- ◆ Have a plan
- ◆ Start early
- ◆ Monitor
- ◆ Know you choices

Remember: implementing a good fly control program will help keep your dairy not only in compliance but will also go a long way toward being a good neighbor.

2007 Diversity Visa Lottery Open Until December 4



The Diversity Immigrant Visa Program is administered on an annual basis by the Department of State. The act makes available 50,000 permanent resident visas annually to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the United

States. The annual program makes these permanent visas available to persons meeting the simple, but strict, eligibility requirements. Applicants are chosen by a computer-generated random lottery drawing. The visas, however, are distributed among 6 geographical regions.

Entries for the DV-2007 diversity visa lottery must be submitted electronically between Wednesday, October 5, 2005 and Sunday, December 4, 2005. Applicants may access the electronic diversity visa entry form at www.dvlottery.state.gov. Paper entries will not be accepted. Applicants are strongly

encouraged not to wait until the last week of the registration period to enter. Heavy demand may result in delays. No entries will be accepted after noon on December 4, 2005!

Please note that there have been instances of fraudulent websites posing as official US Government sites. Some companies posing as US Government have sought money in order to "complete" lottery entry forms. There is no charge to download and complete the Electronic Diversity Visa Entry Form.

www.dvlottery.state.gov is the only official website to submit entries!

If you have any questions about the DV Lottery, please check www.travel.state.gov/visa and click on 2007 DV Lottery instructions on the right side of the website. You can also call our office if you have questions or need help with registering.

Source: www.dvlottery.state.gov

Signing For Entities

In a simpler time, when a producer visited the county office to sign a form there was no question about how to sign. The producer simply signed his or her name on the dotted line.



In today's world of "entities" - trusts, limited liability companies, cooperatives, partnerships and corporations - signing forms isn't so simple.

First, you have to have a document on file with the county office that says you are authorized to sign for the entity. It could be a copy of the articles of partnership or a valid power of attorney.

Second, you have to know how you are supposed to sign. In almost all instances, when you are signing for

an entity, your signature has to include "by" or "for" to indicate you are signing in a representative capacity.

When you have signing authority for an entity, you have to sign forms on behalf of the entity. For example: you have a partnership, the John Dutchman & Sons Partnership and you are authorized to sign for the partnership. An acceptable signature would be "John Dutchman & Sons Partnership by John Dutchman, Partner". Remember, if you established an entity for your operation, you can no longer sign forms and contracts as yourself.

Source: Van Wert County USDA Service Center

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Welcome



Welcome to the in 't Groen family. Jack, Carola and their 3 children moved from De Mortel, The Netherlands to Wayne, Ohio to establish their dairy. They are currently residing at:
206 Railroad Street
(P.O. Box 264)
Wayne, OH 43466.

Welcome back to Mario, Marjolein and Luc van der Hulst. The van der Hulst family moved back to the US to operate their dairy in Sturgis, Michigan after a stay in the Netherlands. The family will be residing at:
67770 Balk Road
Sturgis, MI 49091.

Taxes: Plan Ahead

October/November is not only harvest season, but a great time to estimate the years income tax liability. With nearly two months remaining in 2005, adjustments for income and expenses may still be made with significant effects on tax liability. After January 1st, there is little room to maneuver these adjustments, other than choosing depreciation options or a contribution to an IRA.

One's tax management goal should be maximizing after-tax income or wealth over time, not minimizing taxes in any one year. Some people get so concerned about saving a few dollars in taxes this year that they miss the big picture.

Keeping taxable income relatively stable year-to-year has been a key

Continued Taxes: Plan Ahead

to effective income tax management in the past, because of the progressive nature of income tax rates. Recent tax law changes have "flattened" tax rates, reducing the progressiveness of income tax. Wide swings in taxable income are likely to result in higher taxes, although farm income averaging may help. The amount of income that is "tax free" because of personal exemptions and the standard deduction has increased due to law changes and inflation. One should plan to report at least this "tax free" amount of income each year.

As a minimum, individuals should tally their receipts and expenditures before the end of the tax year. This allows year-end tax planning. Depending on the income situation, additional sales may be made before December 31, 2005 or delayed into 2006.

Because of the complexity of the tax laws and regulations, competent professional tax advice is generally a very worthwhile investment.

I-94 REMINDER

Please check the dates on the I-94 card (little white card) in your passport.

Letting your I-94 expire has great consequences for your visa!

Announcements

Silage for Dairy Farms: Growing, Harvesting, Storing and Feeding is a conference for dairy producers and their advisors and will be held from **January 23-25, 2006** in the Radisson Penn Harris Hotel and Convention Center in Camp Hill (Harrisburg), Pennsylvania. Please check www.nraes.org/conferences/silageprogram.html for more information.



New Arrival

Congratulations to Liesbeth and Arno Schot on the birth of their new baby Jordan! Jordan was born on August 21, 2005 and joins sister Carmen at their family's home.

Custom Manure Application

If you are interested in custom manure application using drag line and Gen-till applicator, please call Eight Star Farms Inc.
Home: 419-925-4897
Cell: 419-733-1079 or 419-305-6964.