

New World News



Ohio Air Quality Conference



Increasing odor and air quality concerns have created significant difficulties for the viability and growth of the livestock industry and are becoming prominent issues in Ohio. U.S. EPA has signed the air quality compliance agreement with animal feeding operations (AFOs) which explicitly states that all AFOs need to comply with federal air quality regulations. Management of air pollutant emissions is a major challenge that animal producers face.

The Ohio Air Quality Conference will improve understanding of the federal air quality regulations, environmental and

health impacts of air pollution, baseline air emissions and air quality parameters associated with animal production, and the best available technologies and practices for effective management of these issues.

The Ohio Air Quality Conference will take place on January 18-19, 2006 in Columbus, Ohio. On January 18 there will be an in-service training. A research symposium will take place on January 19.

For more information or registration please check <http://fabe.osu.edu/> (bottom of the page)

Source: Ohio Department of Agriculture

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For sale:

Heavy Duty VGM Dump wagon. 22 ton, tandem 700 x 26, hydraulic brakes and silage extensions. Call 517-266-0384

Bull calves

Jerry Hammer and Doug Coppus are interested in purchasing bull calves on a daily basis. Please contact them at 419-722-9846 or 419-435-9024 if you are interested.

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 \$16.36 to \$16.86 in the Mideast Order.

2005 Milk Prices (announced on December 2, 2005)		
Class of Milk	Price per 100 pounds (or 45.36 kg.)	Change from Previous Month
I Fluid Milk for drinking	\$16.76	+\$.29
II Soft products: yogurt, cream cheese	\$13.49	-\$.76
III Cheese	\$13.35	-\$ 1.00
IV Butter, powder milk	\$12.90	-\$.71



New Staff Member



My name is Ben Huiskamp and I recently moved to the United States to support dairy farmers in obtaining financing at acceptable conditions. Many of you will know me already as I have worked with Rabobank Nederland and was

seriously interested to finance Vreba-Hoff Dairy and new start-up dairies.

Unfortunately, the bank decided to purchase a bank in California first and attempt to purchase one of the Farm Credit Banks, which delayed the urgently required financing. However, it spurred AgStar to take the lead as the banker for Vreba-Hoff clients.

Nowadays, I am on the other side of the table and try to arrange a framework for financing that applies to all dairy farmers. The following step is to search for individual financing for every dairyman.

Together with my wife, Annelien, and my 17-year-old daughter, Anne, we rented a house in Wauseon, close to the office. We have a passion for cycling, skiing, running and dancing. For the future I hope to be able to cooperate with all of you and be able to answer your questions and most importantly to contribute to the net income line of your profit and loss account and make things happen. If you need me or if you have a question please give me a call in the office in Wauseon or on my cell phone at (517) 403-5866.

Effective Time Management in Business

In a business, poor management of time will prevent the business from reaching its full potential. Many demands are made on you because you are totally responsible for operating the business. The workday can be long, tiring and frustrating due to poor planning and people controlling your time and work. All of us have the same amount of time; the challenge is using this resource effectively.

The best place to start managing time better is with yourself! Resolve to manage your time and not let time manage you. When you face the fact that you may be the cause of some of your time problems, you are already to change your habits.

Some major time wasters are telephone interruptions, visitors, socializing, lack of information, excessive paperwork, failure to delegate, poor scheduling, failure to plan and unclear objectives.

Determine what you really want to accomplish. This requires setting long-range goals and allocating specific blocks of time to each. Goals should be put in writing and reviewed frequently. A goal that is not in writing is merely a dream.

To make these goals operational, a daily "to-do" list

should be used. Each workday should begin with a plan of tasks and the priority of each task. Block out part of your day or week for major projects to ensure that you have time to do the important things.



Here are three principles of scheduling:

- Reserve a block of time that cannot be interrupted and use this time to accomplish tasks that need your attention.
- Force yourself to stay with an activity until it is completed.
- Do not schedule all of your time. This unscheduled time will help in case of emergencies.

If you want to do a better job managing your time you should try the following, but remember: it may take years to become proficient at managing time:

- Tackle tough jobs first and quit doing pretty tasks.
- Delegate and develop others. Break the "do-it-yourself" habit and let others learn to share responsibility in operating the business.
- Avoid the cluttered desk syndrome. A clear desk helps you think clearly, locate papers easier and keeps your mind on the task at hand.

Source: Ohio State University

National Animal Identification System

Dairy producers rely on animal identification for day-to-day management of their herds. Animal identification also is important from a state, national, and global perspective as it relates to animal health. In 2004, the USDA initiated the implementation of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) as a significant aspect of safeguarding animal health in the U.S.

The NAIS will allow for rapid tracing of animals during an animal disease outbreak. In fact, the goal is for the NAIS to be able to identify all animals and premises that have had direct contact with an animal disease of concern within 48 hours of discovery.

There are three key components of the NAIS.



- **Premises Identification:** A premises is any physical location where animals are managed or held. These locations can be farms, ranches, other production units, markets, packing plants, quarantine facilities, veterinary clinics, and exhibitions. Each state will be responsible for providing a system for registering all premises where animals are managed or handled in that state.

- **Animal Identification:** Animal identification will be a unique number for each individual animal. A unique group/lot identification number will be assigned if the animals are managed and moved as a group. Acceptable identification devices

or methods in the NAIS must be approved by USDA/APHIS. Animal Identification Number (AIN) tags will be required to meet minimum standards, such as, designed for one-time use, not readily altered or tampered with, and easily and reliably readable. The cattle industry has established radio frequency identification (RFID) as its preferred form of identification to meet these minimum standards, although flexibility in the system allows for other forms of unique identification to be adopted in the future. USDA/APHIS will provide authorization to those companies that want to manufacture approved identification devices that contain AIN. In addition, specific criteria have been

defined for individuals, companies, or organizations to be involved with AIN tag management and distribution.

- **Animal tracking:** Records of animal movement must include the Animal or Group/Lot Identification Number, premises number of the receiving location, and the date of the event being recorded. Accurate and timely reporting of animal movement from one premises to another will be critical to achieve the 48-hour trace back objective.

Based on comments from listening sessions held by USDA and a survey of National Institute of Animal Agriculture (NIAA) members, there was a strong support for a mandatory program. The NAIS Draft Strategic Plan, released on April 25, 2005 includes a timeline of a phased-in approach to NAIS implementation.

- July 2005: all states capable of premises registration.
- August 2005: Animal Identification Number System operational (this step has since been delayed).
- April 2007: communication campaign to create awareness of upcoming requirements for premises registration and animal identification.
- January 2008: Premises registration and animal identification required.
- January 2009: Reporting of defined animal movement required; entire program mandatory.

Considerable concern has been expressed regarding the confidentiality of information collected and stored in databases for the NAIS. On August 30, 2005, USDA Secretary Johanns announced that USDA's guiding principles for the NAIS will allow industry databases to feed a single, privately held animal-tracking repository that USDA/APHIS can access.

Implementation of the NAIS is underway. However, many details and logistics must still be determined. More information about NAIS can be accessed at www.usda.gov/nais.

Sources: Michigan Dairy Review
Indiana Board of Animal Health
www.ohioanimalid.com

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1290 N. Shoop Ave., Suite 140
Wauseon, Ohio 43567

Phone: 419.337.5000
Fax: 419.337.5411
Email: info@vrebahoff.com

Announcements

Mid American Ag and Hort Services (MAAHS) is holding its first **Human Resource Conference January 16, 2005** at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Ohio. It will cover topics such as worker safety, labor compliance and worker productivity. For more information and registration please check www.midamservices.org or call 614-246-8286.

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.

MSUE announces the **2006 Winter Dairy Program Animal Health: Managing Diseases vs. Using Band-Aids**. The program will be presented in nine locations in Michigan from **January 24-February 16, 2006**. If you have any questions, please contact the Dairy Extension Educator in your area.

Wallet Stolen?



Here is some advice forwarded to us by one of our clients on what to do before and after your wallet is stolen or lost.

- ◆ Do not sign the back of your credit cards. Instead, put "photo id required".
- ◆ Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine. Do both sides! You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel.
- ◆ When your wallet is stolen, file a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where your credit cards, etc., were stolen. This proves to credit providers that you were diligent.
- ◆ Call the 3 national credit reporting organizations to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security number. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen, and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit.

Here are the numbers you should contact in case your wallet has been stolen:

- Equifax: 1-800-525-6285
- Experian: 1-888-397-3742
- Trans Union: 1-800-680-7289
- Social Security Administration Fraud Line: 1-800-269-0271

NPDES Permit

Notice of Availability of Correspondence Regarding Revisions to the NPDES Permit Regulation and Effluent Limitation Guidelines for CAFO's.

The 2003 CAFO rule contains the requirement that by February 13, 2006, all newly defined CAFOs must apply for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit. The 2003 CAFO rule also requires that all CAFOs develop and implement a Nutrient Management Plan by December 31, 2006.

Source: www.epa.gov

Welcome



Welcome to the van der Burg family! Marcel, Angelique and their sons relocated from Biddinghuizen, The Netherlands to Williamsport, Ohio and will be residing at: 431 South Water Street Williamsport, OH 43164
Phone: (740) 986-9067

New Address



The van Ittersum family has moved. Their new address is:
1333 West 400 N
Markle, IN 46770
Phone: (260) 543-2592

The van Rooijen family has moved. Their new address is:
12370 Jerry City Road
Cygnet, OH 43413
Phone: (419) 655-2265