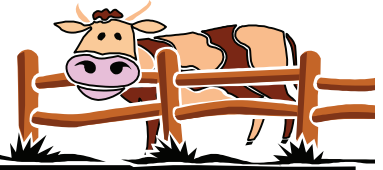


DAIRY *Update*



Spring 2005

UI Students Receive Platinum Honors at Dairy Challenge

A University of Idaho team earned a second place platinum award during this year's North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge (NAIDC). The University of Guelph, Cornell University, and the University of Illinois earned first-place platinum awards.

Hosted by Penn State University, the 4th Annual NAIDC was held on April 8-9, 2005, in State College, PA. Twenty-seven teams from the United States and Canada participated this year. The Dairy Challenge tests students' knowledge in dairy management by requiring teams to analyze all phases of a specific dairy farm and present recommendations for improvement to a panel of judges.

The UI team of Christine Basel (Melba, ID), Adam Beard (Kimberley, ID), Brandy Janicek (Star, ID), and Dan Richardson (Yerington, NV) won a second-place platinum award for their efforts. Each UI winner received a \$100 scholarship. "The judges said our team correctly identified the two main issues facing the farm it analyzed, and that our team's strength was its enthusiasm and energy - even after waiting through nine hours of presentations by other teams," said Amin Ahmadzadeh, UI assistant professor of dairy science and the team's coach. "The team's performance was especially impressive because none of the four came from dairy families," he added. "None of them had dairy backgrounds but their interest led them to pursue dairy science and compete with the best in the nation."

This year marked the team's fourth appearance in the event. In 2004, the UI team won a first-place platinum award for their efforts, while UI students garnered gold awards in 2002 and 2003.

The Dairy Challenge was created to encourage the development of future dairy industry leaders and is sponsored by more than fifty allied dairy companies and industry. United Dairymen of Idaho co-sponsored the Dairy Challenge and helped the Animal and Veterinary Science Department underwrite the UI team.

In 2006, NAIDC will be held in Twin Falls, Idaho. The University of Idaho and Washington State University are co-hosting the event. For more information please contact Dr. Amin Ahmadzadeh at 208.885.7409 or amin@uidaho.edu.

National Animal Identification

Recently, the USDA released documents entitled "Draft Strategic Plan" and "Draft Program Standards" regarding the National Animal Identification System (NAIS). The USDA desires feedback on these documents from agriculture producers, leaders, and industry partners during the public comment period, which closes June 6. Both documents are available on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's NAIS website at <http://www.usda.gov/nais>. Look under "Hot Topics" and click on "Submit a Comment" to share your thoughts.

For Employees ...

Systematic Breeding Programs

Systematic breeding programs such as Modified Targeted Breeding and Presynch + Ovsynch provide an organized and efficient approach to administering first AI and the improvement of reproductive performance. Several pharmaceuticals including gonadotropin releasing hormone (GnRH) and prostaglandin $F_{2\alpha}$ (PG) are used to control the timing of estrus or ovulation by altering the length of the estrous cycle and(or) through manipulation of follicular growth. Systematic breeding programs allow for efficient and convenient AI by making the occurrence of estrus more predictable or allowing for appointment breeding (timed AI) without heat detection. Conception rates resulting from these protocols vary. Nevertheless, there are common “compliance” factors among all systematic breeding protocols that should be practiced the same on all farms. These factors include drug dosages, time, day, and route of administration, time of insemination, and accurate cow identification.

With the advent of timed AI protocols, more cows are inseminated in a short period of time and, hopefully, more cows will become pregnant earlier in lactation. Nevertheless, it is apparent that in all systematic breeding programs, the conception rate at first AI will not reach 100%. Therefore, cows will need to be inseminated a second or third time in order to become pregnant. Producers should pay close attention 18 to 24 days after AI to detect cows that return to estrus, and (or) implement a follow-up breeding program (Resynch).

Para los empleados ...

Programas Sistemáticos de Reproducción

Los programas sistemáticos de reproducción como el Programa Modificado de Inseminación Programada y el protocolo Presynch + Ovsynch brindan un enfoque organizado y eficiente de administrar la I.A. y de mejorar el rendimiento reproductivo. Existen varios productos farmacéuticos, incluyendo la hormona liberadora de la gonadotropina (GnRH) y la prostaglandina F2 alfa (PG) que se usan para controlar el momento del estro o la ovulación alterando la duración del ciclo estral y (o) por medio de la manipulación del crecimiento folicular. Los programas sistemáticos de reproducción permiten la I.A. en proporciones suficientes y convenientes hacienda que la ocurrencia del estro sea más predicable o permitiendo la inseminación programada (por “cita”) sin la detección de calores. Las tasas de concepción resultantes de estos protocolos son variables. No obstante, hay factores comunes o “coincidentes” entre todos los programas sistemáticos de reproducción que deben ser puestos en práctica en todas las granjas. Estos factores incluyen dosis de los medicamentos, momento, día y ruta de administración, momento de la inseminación e identificación exacta de las vacas.

Con el advenimiento de los protocolos de inseminación programada, más vacas son inseminadas en un lapso corto y, esperamos, que queden más vacas preñadas más pronto en la lactancia. No obstante, es aparente que en todos los programas sistemáticos de inseminación la tasa de concepción al primer servicio no llegará al 100%. Por lo tanto, las vacas tendrán que ser inseminadas una segunda o tercera vez a fin de quedar gestantes. Los productores deben prestar mucha atención 18 a 24 días después de la I. A. para detectar las vacas que vuelvan a presentar calor y (o) implementar un programa de seguimiento (Resynch).

New Educational Program for Employees ...

Raising Healthy Calves

Do not miss this new educational program for Spanish speaking employees. Topics to be discussed include cleanliness, physiology of parturition, calving assistance, neonatal management, colostrum feeding, health, and calf nutrition and housing. All classes are in Spanish and start at 10:00 am. Lunch is included. The dates and location of events:

- June 7 – Caldwell Research and Extension Center
- June 8 – Twin Falls Research and Extension Center
- June 9 – Melina's Restaurant, Blackfoot

For more information, or to register, please contact Mireille Chahine at 208.736.3600 (English) or 208.736.3609 (Spanish).

Nuevo Programa Educativo Para los Empleados ...

Criar Becerros Sanos

No pierda esta nuevo programa educativo para los trabajadores que hablan Español. Temas de discusión incluyen limpieza, fisiología del parto, asistencia del parto, manejo neonatal, calostro, salud, nutrición y alojamiento. Todas las clases estan en Español y empiezan a las 10:00 en la mañana. El almuerzo es incluido. Las fechas y lugares del clases:

- 7 de Junio – Caldwell Research and Extension Center
- 8 de Junio – Twin Falls Research and Extension Center
- 9 de Junio – Melina's Restaurant, Blackfoot

Para obtener más información, o para registrar, llame a Mireille Chahine a 208.736.3600 (en Inglés) o 208.736.3609 (en Español).

Dairy Update is compiled by Joseph C. Dalton, Asst. Professor and Extension Dairy Specialist for the University of Idaho Department of Animal and Veterinary Science. For more information, contact Dr. Dalton at the Caldwell Research and Extension Center, 16952 S. Tenth Avenue, Caldwell, ID 83607, (208) 459-6365, jdalton@uidaho.edu.



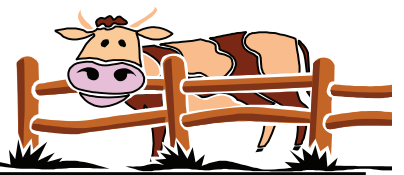
Extension Dairy Specialist

Cooperative Extension System
U.S. Department of Agriculture
University of Idaho
16952 S. Tenth Avenue
Caldwell, ID 83607

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



DAIRY *Update*



Coming Events

- ◆ International Dairy Federation Mastitis Conference, Maastricht, The Netherlands, June 12-15. For more information: www.fil-idf.org/mastitis2005/
- ◆ Internacional Conferencia Sobre Ganado Lechero – CIGAL 2005, Guadalajara, Jalisco, México, July 13-15. For more information, e-mail: cigal@prodigy.net.mx
- ◆ American Dairy Science Association-American Society of Animal Science Annual Meeting, Cincinnati, OH, July 24-28. For more information: www.fass.org/2005/
- ◆ Washington State University, University of Idaho, and Oregon State University Feed Management Workshop: Focus on Nitrogen Utilization Efficiency and Hoof Health, Twin Falls, ID, August 3, and Puyallup, WA, August 4. For more information, e-mail: wsuconf@wsu.edu or jhharrison@wsu.edu