

Minnesota DHIA News

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Fixing What's Broken

302 Herd Summary: % Left Non-Dairy by 60 DIM

Cows culled within the first 60 days in milk, also known as broken cows, cause significant economic losses to herds. In the article, "Minimizing Broken Cow Risks" by Mike Hutjens, he states the cost could be \$2,000 or greater from milk production alone. On the consultant side of the Herd Summary is a section which shows what % of cows culled during the last 1, 3, 6, and 12 months were in their first 60 days in milk. In the example above over the past year, 8% of animals culled for non-dairy reasons were in the first 60 days in milk. That adds up quickly, with 5% of all 1st lactation, 9% 2nd lactation, and 11% 3rd lactation animals culled left the herd within 60 DIM. First lactation animals are the most costly to lose during this period; therefore, a goal may be to monitor 1st lactation animals to limit problems during this time. The month breakdowns allow you to see if there is a trend in your herd during a specific lactation or time period. Animals reaching peak milk production and future lactations make profits, so check out this section of your Herd Summary.

% Left Non-Dairy by 60 DIM				
Lact	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
1	0	5	8	5
2	17	12	7	9
3+	21	19	17	11
All	13	11	11	8

Hot Stamped vs. Laser Marked Ear Tags

Know the difference and is laser marked worth the extra cost?

Laser Marking allows printing of clear and detailed tags. The markings last the life of the tag, resist wear, fading and is abrasion proof. Laser color is a dark charcoal black/gray or silvery white color on black tags. Y-Text, Z Tags and Temple have a dark laser with good contrast. Allflex uses an advanced laser ink method that puts a layer of ink over the management number only, making it a dark black.

Hot Stamp tags are stamped with a foil dye for a dark, crisp, saturated imprint of color with a high contrast. Hot stamp comes in black and is also offered in white. This imprint will start fading after 2 years lasting approximately 4 years. YText and Z Tags offer Hot Stamped tags.

Laser marked tags are often a good investment. The price difference is \$0.11/tag.

To order ear tags or if you have any questions call 800-827-3442 ext. 16

Source: CCK Outfitters



For a Laugh...

1. What do you call cows that have a sense of humor?
2. What did mama cow say to baby cow?
3. Why was the cow afraid?

Cowside Tests Available

the PortaBHB[®]
milk ketone test



P4 Rapid

The essential heat detection tool for
vets and dairy farmers.

Because it pays to be sure.

To Order contact your
Field Representative

Anniversaries

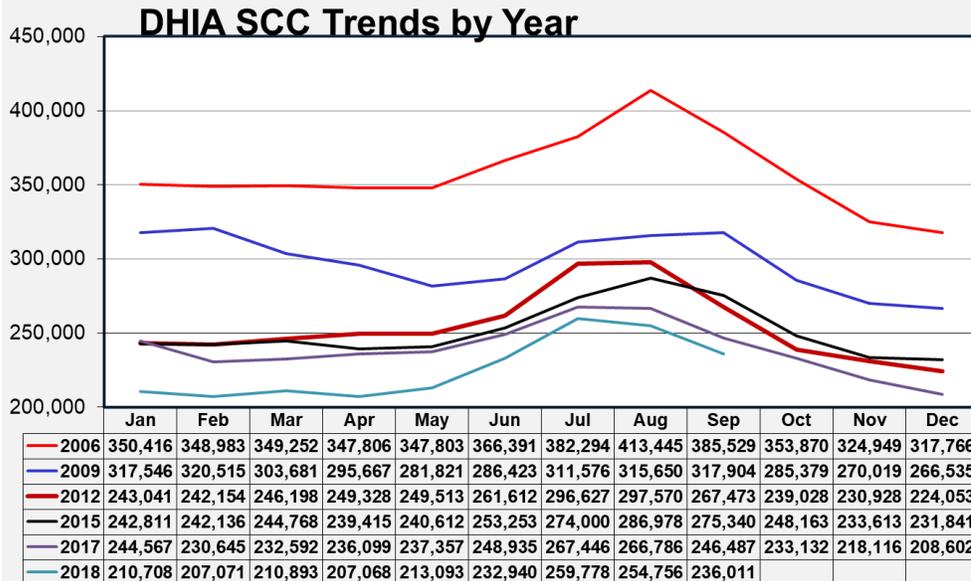
Val Schumann ~ 30 Years
Robert Klopp ~ 25 Years
Warren Farr ~ 5 Years

Putting a Spotlight on First Lactation Animals

Heifers are the future of your herd; therefore, it is essential to make sure they are off to a good start. The Yearly SCC Summary section, located in the middle of your Herd Summary, shows the percent of animals throughout the year that have had an SCC over 200,000. The number of samples this reflects is displayed below the Yearly SCC box. **Yellow** highlights will appear in “Yearly SCC Summary” if lactation one animals have a higher infection rate than any other lactation in the first 30 DIM. The highlight is designed to draw attention to when and where a problem occurs.

Yearly SCC Summary			
Lact	% Infected by DIM		
	< 30	30 - 220	> 220
1	20	13	17
2	8	13	25
3+	18	21	38
All	16	15	24

Based on 4528 Samples



A year of all-time low SCC

For a Laugh...Answers

1. A Laughing stock
2. It's pasture bed time
3. He was a cow-herd.

Quick Tips: Preventing Accidents on the Farm



- Develop—then follow—a comprehensive and effective farm safety program.
- Prevent or avoid accidental injuries through positive actions, such as planning, preparing, reducing hazards, using protective equipment, training your help, and working and driving in ways that minimize the chance of mishap.
- Constantly be on the lookout for possible accident situations.
- Keep your mind on the job at hand.
- Take safety breaks throughout the work day to help you stay more alert and safer.

Source: Indiana Rural Safety and Health Council

DOES AGE AT FIRST CALVING MATTER?

Our information comparing RHA lbs. of milk to average age at freshening for first lactation animals say **YES**.

Minnesota DHIA Scorecard for 2018

* Use yearly average values when available, not current test day.		All Cows, RHA Milk, December 2017						
PRODUCTION MEASURES	Your Herd	<16,000	17-18,999	19-20,999	21-22,999	23-24,999	25-26,999	>27,000
RHA Pounds of Milk		13,661	17,707	20,143	22,043	23,983	25,926	29,180
Average Age Freshening, 1st Lact. (months)		30	28	27	26	25	25	24



Back to School?
Don't forget about the DHIA Scholarship Program
Information available at www.mndhia.org

