

Minnesota DHIA News

A PUBLICATION OF MINNESOTA DHIA

Volume 21 Issue 8

AUGUST 2021



ID & Tags Matter



Orders can be placed on line at www.eartagcentral.com. Use the code DHIA to get discounts for Minnesota members. Members have ordered over 730,000 eartags. You may also call Heidi at 763.233.7860 to place an order.

Successful management is made possible by good identification. It is useful to know who the cow or calf is, and who their ancestors are. For most producers this starts with identifying the service sire when you breed a cow. When the cow calves our software validates the calf's sire ID by comparing the breeding and calving dates. Inserting an eartag early in the life of that calf helps insure the identity is maintained as long as the tag remains in place. Many managers use both a visual tag and a separate official tag to identify the calf, and we record both in our software (or you do in yours). Tags do disappear and can be replaced with a different numbered tag with the new number cross referenced to the old one in the software so parentage and identity are not lost.

Why is parentage important? Let's look at results. Below is data from the Minnesota DHIA Scorecard for 2021. Note that the highest producing herds also have the highest rate of sire identification. Looking at scorecards back to 1990 we see the same pattern. Jerry Steuarnagel, who managed the Dairy Records Processing Center at the University of Minnesota, is a statistician. He reviewed over 700 individual stats on our Herd Summary and determined the one with the highest correlation to production is "percent identified by sire".

PRODUCTION MEASURES	Your Herd	<16,000	17-18,999	19-20,999	21-22,999	23-24,999	25-26,999	>27,000
Average Cows per Herd		70	76	97	110	145	226	413
RHA Pounds of Milk		13,973	17,757	19,998	21,938	23,982	25,975	28,804
IDENTIFICATION								
Percent Identified by Sire, 1st Lact.		56	68	72	82	90	93	98

Identification is the key to enabling the genetic and genomic information available to dairy managers and to the worldwide dairy industry.

Minnesota DHIA offers management tags in many colors and sizes from many manufacturers. We also offer official tags from Allflex, Temple, Destron, and YTex. Official tags are those that have a 15 digit number that starts with the numbers 840 to tell us that cow came from the United States. Official tags are Radio Frequency Tags because no one wants to write down or type in 15 numbers. We have developed a system with our software that makes tag number entry easy and accurate.

With funding from USDA, the Minnesota Board of Animal Health offers RFID tags free with some limit on the number of tags per farm. You can find your Premises ID number and order those free RFID tags at www.bah.state.mn.us. Look under forms for the "order RFID for replacement heifers".

Once a herd has RFID on all milking cows, we can scan that ID on sample day instead of reading tags and keying, saving time and money especially for larger dairies.

Lowering Somatic Cell Count isn't just about premiums. Cows with lower SCC produce more milk and components, and are easier to get pregnant.

If you lower Somatic Cell Count:

Move from 500 to 400K

Production increase per cow	949 lbs
Average \$ per Cow	\$190
Yearly \$ Per Herd (100 cows)	\$18,980

Move from 400 to 300K

Production increase per cow	803 lbs
Average \$ per Cow	\$161
Yearly \$ Per Herd (100 cows)	\$16,060

Move from 300 to 200K

Production increase per cow	1,022 lbs
Average \$ per Cow	\$204

Yearly \$ Per Herd (100 cows) \$20,440



Harvest is Right Around the Corner!

Please remember with the rush of harvest comes the importance of farm safety. According to the U.S. Agriculture Fatality Statistics, more than 150,000 farm workers were injured on the job between 1992 and 2002. This figure has remained fairly consistent in more recent years and has even increased periodically. Here are a few harvest safety tips to keep in mind:

1. While operating tractors and other farm equipment, be very cautious on rural roadways. Look for oncoming cars while making wide turns.
2. Watch out for power lines.
3. Ensure your equipment has roll over protection such as seat belts and roll over protection structures
4. Be sure to do regular maintenance and safety checks on tractors and equipment. Check the steps and platform regularly, keep up-to-date with routine maintenance and replace damaged and worn out parts.
5. If you have employees or your children are helping, make sure they take all the necessary precautions as well!

July Milk Quality Leaders, ranked by SCC then Log SCC

Name	SCC	# Cows	Name	SCC	# Cows
GEHL ACRES FARM	34	149	JOHNSON DAIRY	87	104
HIGH POINT DAIRY	38	150	IRISH RIDGE DAIRY LLC	88	75
ABC DAIRY	40	12	*DANIEL & ANNETTE GREGOR	88	64
MEADOW FRONT FARMS	43	119	*DEVOINE KRUSE	90	235
SHIR-MAN HOLSTEIN FARM	45	56	TRAIL SIDE HOLSTEINS	91	686
*DUANE&KAREN TIMM	46	127	SANDHILL DAIRY	93	349
*CALVIN AND TAMMY BEUMER	48	85	NOLT FAMILY FARM	93	121
RIVER VALLEY DAIRY LLC	48	114	KIMM'S DAIRY	95	86
HARMONY HILLS DAIRY	49	52	*PETER+DAVID BURFEIND	95	335
*MATT BERKTOLD	50	199	KUGATH FARMS	95	44
HOUDEK DAIRY LLC	51	456	*PHIL SUESS	95	14
*BRANDON + JILL MARSHIK	52	109	DANINGER INC	95	93
DUX WILLIE	52	33	KELLER DAIRY	96	120
WOLF CREEK DAIRY	53	456	SCHOENBAUER DAIRY	96	169
*JERRY & BEV POHLMANN	55	73	SMELTER DAIRY	96	64
HOEFS' DAIRY	58	294	VALLEY VIEW FARM 1	98	142
HAPPKE HOLSTEIN FARM	59	110	VIRCHOW DAIRY	99	40
CLOVER GLEN HOLSTEINS	59	21	*TREVOR DICKE	99	109
GESKE-GROVE DAIRY	60	8	*STACY & JULIE MILLER	99	96
MERDAN DAIRY INC	63	86	*JEREMY HOLTHAUS	100	63
*JIM EVANS	65	115	IMPOLA DAIRY	100	104
*MARK AINALI	67	60	MASCHKA DAIRY	101	283
RYBERG REG HOLSTEIN	69	36	*MIKE MENZE	101	86
RUBY DAIRY FARM	69	13	DOUG & SANDRA DEROUSSEAU	102	85
RKB DAIRY	70	140	MARSHALL KORN	102	61
BURKE DAIRY INC	72	188	*JASON MEISSNER	103	57
NOSBUSH DAIRY	72	897	GORENTZ DAIRY	103	180
WRIGHT WAY DAIRY FARM	73	40	LONE OAK FARM	103	39
VALLEY ACRES DAIRY	74	906	DELBERT BECHTOLD	104	44
SUNNY SIDE DAIRY	74	132	*GARY SCHLAUDERAFF	104	594
THISTLE DEW DAIRY	74	128	CLEAR CREST FARM,LLC	105	831
DAN KREKELBERG	75	66	*NICK + DENNIS TATGE	106	261
SELKE FARMS	76	244	JOHNSON DARREN+LYNN	106	224
*SCOTT GATHJE	76	75	*ADAM & SARAH MELLGREN	106	74
AVON HEIGHTS	76	90	WEIDENBORNER DAIRY	106	142
SCHULTE FARMS	78	275	*JOHN SAUBER	107	59
BREEZY WILLOWS FARM	78	37	SCHMITY HOLSTEINS	107	221
GOODVUE AYR FARMS II	79	164	KUECHLE DAIRY	108	243
*MARK KLEHR	79	56	ROGER AND SANDY ERICKSON	108	45
SCHEFERS BROTHERS	80	75	BROOK HACKETT	108	51
JASSEL HOLSTEINS	82	79	KRAIG&RACHELLE KRIENKE	109	605
ZUMBRO VIEW FARMS LLC	82	71	*VERN WICK	109	43
GLEN & BECKY CHRISTEN	82	38	MC NAMARA FARMS	109	49
*STEVE MARTIN	83	51	*JAMES & AMANDA HOFFMAN	109	37
DNA FARMS INC	83	76	MARSHLAND FARMS	112	114
SUNKREST DAIRY	83	53	BERANEK BROTHERS LLP	112	183
RADERMACHER DAIRY LLC	84	228	*STEVEN SEIFERT	113	122
*RICK AND ANN STOCKER	85	88	VOGT DAIRY LLC	114	316
SCHMITT DAIRY	85	30	CALVARY HOLSTEINS	114	103
*RANDY AND LUANN WAGNER	86	364	SUNSHINE DAIRY LLC	114	98
MILLER FARMS	87	108	BROOKSIDE DAIRY	114	517

Reminder

The DHIA Scholarship Application is now available. Applications are due by November 30th.
The application and guidelines are available on mndhia.org or dhia.org



Manure Testing available at the DHIA Lab!

Manure management plans depend on the nutrient content of your animal waste product. Centre Labs, Minnesota DHIA's Lab in Sauk Centre, is a certified lab facility that can analyze animal waste for its nutrient values. Free, postage paid, testing kits are available from Centre Labs. Contact the lab at 320.352.2028 for free shipping supplies.

Trusted, timely results:

*Solid or liquid manure analysis
for integration into farm
management and regulatory
compliance programs*

*Certified by the Minnesota
Department of Agriculture*

*Testing kits include container,
sampling instructions, lab
information form, and
postage paid return package.
Results will be provided
in a few business days.*

Available Analysis:

Basic Package \$28.00:

Moisture, Nitrogen,
Phosphorus, Potassium

Expanded Package: \$36.00

Moisture, Nitrogen,
Phosphorus, Potassium,
Organic Nitrogen

Micronutrient Package: \$50.00

Nitrogen, Phosphorus,
Potassium, Organic
Nitrogen, Calcium,
Copper, Iron, Magnesium,
Manganese, Sodium,
Sulfur, Zinc

Carbon Nitrogen Ratio: \$11.00:

for composting purposes

Happy Milestone Anniversary and a big **Thank You** goes out this month to Malcolm Dirksen from Twin Brooks, SD on an impressive 55 years of service.

Which cows should I test for Johnes?

- Low Milk Production
- Early Days in Milk (by 2nd DHIA Test day)
- High SCC
- Low Milk Protein

IS SHE PREGNANT?

CONFIRM IT WITH MILK

Milk Pregnancy Testing through Minnesota DHIA is accurate, cost effective, simple, and safe.

Great for rechecking later in gestation!