

# Minnesota DHIA News

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## District Meetings

You may attend any of these meetings as they are by interest area not geography. You may even attend more than one if you choose. Four of the meetings will be held by Zoom and you will need to send us your email address so we can send you an invite. We will have support people available to help if you have not done a Zoom before, as it is a pretty simple procedure. The last meeting will be a Zoom that you can access as a conference call and will cover general DHIA information.

Minnesota DHIA will provide your membership a \$25 gift card in appreciation of your participation. Your choices will be Dairy Queen, Pizza Ranch, Casey's, and Kwik Trip. There will be a very short business meeting at each district meeting.

## Elections

There will be no voting at the meetings, but nominations for District Delegates and State Directors may be made at any of the meetings, or any time up to Friday March 5 by calling, emailing, or texting the office. Only residents of a district may nominate a Delegate or Director, or Alternate for that district. Ballots will be sent out to attendees after nominations close on March 5. Elections for Corporate Director will be held for the Metro, SE, and SC districts.

Resolutions will be accepted during any of the meetings or in writing by mail or email received at the office by the end of business on March 19.

## Meeting Schedule and topics - Mastitis control, Calf Rearing, and PC Dart

**All District meetings are scheduled to start at 12:30 P.M.** and run 75 minute with time after for questions..

February 22, 2021 Utilizing **PC Dart** in managing your dairy with Greg Palas from DRMS Ames and Patty Smeby. This is a Zoom meeting **covering basics** and for newer users. Please email [nancyz@mndhia.org](mailto:nancyz@mndhia.org) to secure your invitation. Directions will be included with your invite and telephone support will be available if you are new to Zoom and have questions.

February 24, 2021 "**Pre-weaned calf rearing options for dairy producers**" by Brad Heins from the West Central ROC. Options for raising healthy dairy calves with different rearing systems will be discussed. Examples from several rearing systems including automatic feeders, individual and pair-housing and raising calves with cows from the University of Minnesota research center in Morris will be discussed. This will be a zoom meeting. Please email [nancyz@mndhia.org](mailto:nancyz@mndhia.org) to secure your invitation.

February 26, 2021 "**Are you ready for SDCT?**" Contagious pathogen control, mastitis monitoring, and other important preparations with Dr. Erin Royster. Discussion will include Select Dry Cow Therapy version of the SCC Flex Report (new report from DHIA). This is a Zoom meeting. Please email [nancyz@mndhia.org](mailto:nancyz@mndhia.org) to receive your invitation. Invite your veterinarian.

March 2, 2021 **PC Dart** session for users will cover **Timed AI, Trackers, Chores, Protocols** and answer other PC Dart questions. Greg Palas and Patty Smeby will be the hosts. This is a Zoom meeting. Please email [nancyz@mndhia.org](mailto:nancyz@mndhia.org) for your invitation.

March 4, 2021 This will be a traditional old school DHIA district meeting. Lab Manager Mark Heidgerken will share an update on lab, Val Schumann on Dairy Records, and Bruce Dokkebakken on the business and future directions. You may join this meeting by telephone or on Zoom. To secure your invitation please email [bruced@mndhia.org](mailto:bruced@mndhia.org). If you plan to join by phone please call the office at 763.682.1091 so we can send you an information packet prior to the meeting.

**Happy Milestone Anniversary** and a big **Thank You** go out this month to Tom Quist of Center City for his 40 years of service, and to Kevin Knoblach of Sauk Centre for his 25 years of service.

Dairy Records Management Systems (DRMS) processes your records to produce your reports and to send and receive data with the Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding and USDA for genetic evaluations and research (only with your permission). DRMS also developed the PC Dart software that many of you are using. After years of development and testing, DRMS is implementing their New Processing System on February 1. Benefits include the immediate and Continuous Processing of Data as it arrives resulting in even faster turnaround time for reports and data downloads, expanded and flexible data storage system with many new data items, new PC Dart features and DHI report fields are coming soon.

A few areas on the herd summary will be blank on the reports as calculations are being verified: genetic information on service sires used on youngstock, and 4 fields on the Reproductive Summary. Expect those filled in by May 1.

## ***Selective Dry Cow Therapy (SDCT) Report is here!***

### ***What is selective dry cow therapy (SDCT)?***

Selective dry cow therapy (SDCT), as opposed to blanket dry cow therapy (BDCT), employs a specific strategy to avoid treating every cow with antibiotics at dry off.

- SDCT can provide a more targeted approach and a more judicious use of antibiotics without compromising future cow health or performance.
- SDCT programs identify two categories of cows:
  1. Cows eligible for treatment with antibiotics and internal teat sealant.
  2. Cows eligible for treatment with internal teat sealant alone.

### ***Why should producers consider SDCT?***

Increasing public concern about antibiotic use in agriculture has led the dairy industry to explore ways to use antibiotics in a more judicious manner.

- BDCT accounts for approximately one-third of the total antibiotic use on a conventional dairy farm, and SDCT has been shown to reduce dry cow antibiotic use by 55%.
- Decreased use of antibiotics also means that producers have the opportunity to save money with a SDCT program.

### ***Keys to success***

Successful SDCT programs are highly dependent on a few key factors.

- Use of an internal teat sealant in quarters not treated with dry cow antibiotics
- A proper intramammary infusion technique is essential. Failure to follow aseptic technique can result in the introduction of harmful pathogens to the udder. Well trained, vested employees are crucial.
- Veterinary involvement is strongly encouraged to help set protocols, train employees, and monitor the program. In some cases the herd veterinarian could also provide trained, experienced veterinary technicians to do sampling and/or to conduct dry-off procedures.
- SDCT is not something all herds should implement. Producers should work with their veterinarian to make sure an SDCT program is right for their herd using the appropriate herd criteria.

## ***What dairy farms have the best chance of SDCT success?***

SDCT is not the correct choice for every producer. Specific herd criteria help identify when an SDCT program is most appropriate to implement and include:

- An annual bulk tank somatic cell count (SCC) less than 250,000 cells/ml.
- Contagious mastitis pathogens are under control (low numbers of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Streptococcus agalactiae*).
- Use of teat sealant in all quarters of all cows at dry off.
- Correct technique for intramammary infusions at dry off.
- Well-trained personnel to make correct screening and treatment decisions.
- The ability to monitor the program to verify it is working.

## ***How to identify which cows to treat with antibiotics in a SDCT program***

There are two approaches to classify cows in a SDCT program, an algorithm guided method, and a culture guided method. Herds that routinely test with DHIA or have access to similar data can use an algorithm guided method to categorize cows. Those herds without access to reliable SCC and clinical mastitis records may need to use a culture guided method.

- Algorithm guided and culture guided SDCT programs both show a similar reduction in dry cow therapy antibiotic use.
- There is no difference in effectiveness between the two methods in terms of significant cow health or production outcomes according to a multi-herd, multi-state study led by University of MN researchers (Rowe, et al, 2020).
- While both approaches had a positive average net return, there is potentially a greater cost-savings associated with an algorithm guided SDCT program if adequate DHIA records are already available.

## ***How to monitor a SDCT program***

As with any big decision on a dairy, it is crucial to work with the herd veterinarian to monitor and evaluate the program. An ideal monitoring program includes continual evaluation of milk quality and the SDCT program:

- Regular bulk tank cultures to screen for contagious pathogens.
- SCC testing.
- Routine culture of clinical and chronic mastitis cases.
- Monitoring cows for mastitis during the dry period, particularly just after dry off.
- Monitoring clinical mastitis rate and SCC in early lactation
- Veterinary involvement and evaluation of records.

## ***What cows are eligible for the two treatment groups in an SDCT program?***

### **Algorithm guided SDCT**

Specific criteria have been developed to identify the two groups of cows in an algorithm guided SDCT program.

<b>Cows eligible for treatment with antibiotics and internal teat sealant in all four quarters (meet ANY or ALL criteria)</b>	<b>Cows eligible for treatment with internal teat sealant alone in all four quarters (meet ALL criteria)</b>
SCC greater than 200,000 at any test during the current lactation	SCC less than 200,000 for all tests during the current lactation
Any clinical mastitis cases in the last 14 days of lactation	No clinical mastitis in the last 14 days of lactation
2 or more clinical mastitis cases during the current lactation	Less than 2 clinical mastitis cases during the current lactation

## January Milk Quality Leaders, ranked by SCC then Log SCC

Name	SCC	# Cows	Name	SCC	# Cows
RIVER VALLEY DAIRY LLC	33	106	SUNNY SIDE DAIRY	76	132
JOHNSON DAIRY	35	105	MERDAN DAIRY INC	76	74
*RYAN KNISLEY	38	64	KIMM'S DAIRY	77	82
*BILL & ALAN MILLER	38	281	GEHL ACRES FARM	78	141
KARA-KESH HOLSTEINS	43	6	MEADOW FRONT FARMS	78	126
RKB DAIRY	44	138	PRIGGE FAMILY FARM	79	286
*STEVE&DEB HEUER	44	32	CLEAR CREST FARM,LLC	79	805
*RON & RENEE HORNBERG	47	47	HIGH POINT DAIRY	79	146
*ADAM & SARAH MELLGREN	48	71	JIM KLAPHAKE	79	76
BURKE DAIRY INC	49	184	METOGGA LAKE DAIRY LLC	80	451
WOLF CREEK DAIRY	50	462	*FRANCIS & THERESA RYNDA	80	47
SELKE FARMS	50	244	*SCOTT&MICHELLE HERBER	81	766
*BRANDON + JILL MARSHIK	50	98	*STACY & JULIE MILLER	81	91
CANC	50	68	MILLER FARMS	81	108
RUSSELL J WIRT + FAMILY	52	539	DELBERT BECHTOLD	81	53
HOUDEK DAIRY LLC	53	427	*KYLE MOSER	81	43
*DENNIS AND WAYNE WOLTERS	53	153	*DAVID FLOM	82	27
*JOHN SAUBER	55	58	SMELTER DAIRY	82	63
*MAREN & JEREMY HOLST	55	131	B AND C DAIRY	82	121
*KEVIN HANSON	56	91	TRELSTAD DAIRY	83	45
CRONK DAIRY	56	37	BREEZY WILLOWS FARM	84	38
*DEVOINE KRUSE	59	231	*AARON & TIFFANY RUTHER	84	174
SCHEFERS BROTHERS	63	75	BROOKSIDE DAIRY	84	517
*LLOYD AND JULIE BLOMMEL	63	149	IRISH RIDGE DAIRY LLC	84	83
*JERRY & SUE BINIEK	64	93	*BRUCE & JODI HEIM	85	386
AVON HEIGHTS	64	90	FLYINGCOW DAIRY	85	180
HOEFS' DAIRY	65	287	YOUNGS DAIRY	85	118
VALLEY ACRES DAIRY	66	888	*NICK + DENNIS TATGE	85	254
*MAYNARD & JEREMY SCHUMACHER	66	132	THISTLE DEW DAIRY	86	131
BEAVER OAK DAIRY	67	142	*JOHN + KARYL DIERSEN	86	190
JOHNSON DARREN+LYNN	67	216	GORENTZ DAIRY	86	176
*MIKE MENZE	67	85	SCHROEDER BROTHERS	87	179
*MARVIN RADEMACHER	67	55	*DARRELL LUHMANN	87	151
DUX WILLIE	67	30	*TRAVIS LEHNERTZ	87	161
*ROGER ALDINGER	68	104	REILAND FARMS	88	502
*JAMES & BETH OLSON	69	48	*JERRY & BEV POHLMANN	89	72
*JEREMIAH SMITH	69	47	STADICK FARM INC	90	196
*MICHAEL & KRIS BANSE	69	97	*ALICIA THURK-HIEBERT	90	42
*CHAD BOHN	69	22	IRRTHUM FARM INC.	90	64
LUX-URY HOLSTEINS INC.	70	133	WALTER BROS FARM	92	428
MUNDT DAIRY	70	217	*SCOTT GATHJE	92	72
*TOM AND SUE HOLST	72	181	*MARK AINALI	92	57
NOSBUSH DAIRY	72	880	KOLTES DAIRY LLC	92	121
*MARK KLEHR	72	58	*RANDY AND LUANN WAGNER	93	361
*PHIL SUESS	72	10	NACHREINER DAIRY	93	267
KRAIG&RACHELLE KRIENKE	73	574	RYBINSKI DAIRY FARM	93	179
CRAZY DAISY DAIRY	73	125	*TIM BREEGGEMANN	93	75
AGAINST THE ODDS	73	14	WALNUT ROW FARM LLC	93	23
BIRCH POINT FARMS PESHON	75	311	TRAIL SIDE HOLSTEINS	95	671
*TIMOTHY A. STOLTMAN	75	56	*GARY SCHLAUDERAFF	95	637
MARSHLAND FARMS	75	114			