

Minnesota DHIA News

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GROEN, SORGE, WELLS AT DISTRICT MEETINGS

- Meetings start with lunch at 11:30, followed by our guest speaker
- District business meeting will be held during lunch. MN DHIA directors will be elected in the Metro, South East, and South Central Districts as noted
- Software Users meetings will start at 10:15 in the South East and South Central
- Lunch is free of charge if you call our office to pre-register 1(800) 827-3442 ext 0

Smart Stockmanship Dates:

Tuesday March 3, 2015: West Central District at Oaks in Willmar (1000 26th Avenue Northeast @ Eagle Creek Golf Course)

Speaker Info:

Ulrike 'Riki' Sorge Assistant Professor
Dairy Production Medicine



Topics: Smart Stockmanship – Principles for management and handling your herd
Practical Johne's Prevention

Handling and animal care is a major part of this business for the animals, the people, and your bottom line. Smart Stockmanship will focus on common sense animal care, effective approaches to moving cows, and minimizing consequences in your herd. Discussion will be of interest to new comers and longtime producers. Riki has done extensive research on Johne's in Ontario as well as Minnesota.

Leukosis Central District on Thursday March 5 at the Cornerstone in Melrose. Featuring Dr. Scott Wells, noted U of M researcher discussing the impact of Leukosis as well as testing and prevention.

Guest Speaker ~ ~ Brant Groen

Foot Care

Wed March 4 SW District at Pizza Ranch 1927 S Broadway St, New Ulm

12 Ways to Improve Profits during Low Milk Prices

Fri March 6 Metro District at Waconia Unhinged Pizza *election*

Brant Groen is a former Dairy Management educator at Ridgewater College as well as an entertaining speaker. Brant will be giving presentations chock full of practical advice for controlling lameness in your herd and taking a look at ways to boost profits when milk prices may be lower. This session is sure to yield some great tips for every dairy farmer.



Annual Meeting

The 47th Annual Meeting of Minnesota DHIA will be held on Thursday March 26, 2015 at Huikkos in Buffalo. The business meeting starts at 10:45. Speakers and Awards start at 1. Featured speakers this year will be Dr. Gerard Cramer of the U of M Vet School on bhb and sub-clinical Ketosis, and **Gary Sipiorski** of Vita Plus on "The Business of Milking Cows after the Gold Rush of 2014". All members are welcome to attend. Please call the office to register so we have a meal count.

Johne's Testing Update

We are in our third month of limited Free Johne's testing funded by the state of Minnesota. We have seen a near tripling of sample volume with many producers taking advantage of this program. It now appears the funding will last into May for those who have not yet used your 30 free tests. Results are shared with the Board of Animal Health, but they are not public, and the Board is simply encouraging anyone with positive cows to contact them for a free on-farm risk assessment. The good news is that many of the herds now testing are finding the preventative measures and good management they put in place as a part of the past program has paid off. Many herds are finding no Johne's positive cows, and a nearly equal number are finding only a cow or two. NAHMS studies show that it is likely about 60% of dairy herds in MN have at least one Johne's cow. This program is your chance to see where your herd stands without fear of stigma or repercussions. Use the information to manage

What can DHIA do for you DHIA Service Reminders

1. All reports are optional on each sample day.
2. All herds should be offered monthly tests (12 per year) as a service standard – 59% of MnDHIA herds have 12 tests in the last 365 days, and we are now supplying twice a month service to one dairy
3. Herds may ask for a special test at any time, for example you can have a test any time to help evaluate SCC.
4. PCR DNA testing for mastitis pathogens uses the DHIA milk sample to test for mastitis pathogens present. Ask your Field Rep for more information .
5. Computers should accompany Field Reps to farms, with printed reports available on the farm on sample day (this does happen on nearly all farms – if it isn't happening on yours – it is an exception).
6. Meters and other equipment should be clean and sanitary when delivered and when it leaves your farm. Field personnel should wear rubber footwear and should clean and sanitize the footwear before leaving your farm. If you have any concerns on cleanliness, please visit with your Field Rep on sample day.

	Johne's Total	Total Positive	% Pos
2006	1,161	33	2.8%
2007	20,011	899	4.5%
2008	38,571	2,093	5.4%
2009	35,027	1,743	5.0%
2010	34,584	1,395	4.0%
2011	35,324	1,293	3.7%
2012	35,214	1,400	4.0%
2013	34,071	1,211	3.6%
2014	40,450	1,581	3.9%
	233,963	8,857	3.8%

**CONGRATULATIONS
HOUSTON COUNTY LED
IN MILK QUALITY
WITH AN AVERAGE OF
178,000
FOR ALL HERDS
FOR 2014**

Of the nearly 12,000 cows tested by milk sample for Johne's in the last 2 months, 2.6% have been positive.

Is Lameness Affecting Your Bottom Line?

Lameness is a concern for herds of all sizes and styles. Studies have shown that dairy herds in the United States have one quarter to over a third of cattle affected by clinical lameness at any given time. Nearly 16% of all cows culled are a result of lameness. Even if it doesn't end with a culled cow, lameness is impacting your bottom line with decreased production, inhibited reproductive performance and additional labor costs – all on top of the cost of treatment.

The first thing to understand about lameness is that it is really a grouping of many different diseases into one category. Infectious diseases of the foot such as foot rot and digital dermatitis (hairy warts) can be transferred from cow to cow and herd to herd. Non-infectious foot problem, such as ulcers, cracks, erosion or white line disease have mechanical or metabolic causes.

Because lameness comes in many different types with different causes and treatments, record-keeping becomes essential. Once you know which type or types of lameness are the most prevalent in your herd, you can take specific steps to address the problem. Infectious diseases are primarily spread via manure and incubated by a warm, wet environment. Non-infectious causes of lameness can have roots in the feed ration and cow comfort. Increased standing time, rushed cow movement and slippery or hard walkways can all be contributing factors.

Lameness may be a complicated issue, but with the economic impact to your bottom line, it's worth getting under control. For those with on-farm software, we offer a tool called Lameness Manager that can help you record and track your lameness data. If you are interested please call our office at 800.827.3442.

Herd Size	Lameness Incidence	Total Cost per Year
	20%	\$6,000
100	30%	\$9,000
	40%	\$12,000
	20%	\$30,000
500	30%	\$45,000
	40%	\$60,000
	20%	\$60,000
1000	30%	\$90,000
	40%	\$120,000

Brant Groen will be speaking on lameness prevention and care at the SW (New Ulm~March4) District Meetings at noon. All members are welcome to attend.

The Hidden Cost of Leukosis

Bovine Leukosis Virus, also known as BLV, is emerging as a growing concern among dairy producers. Some countries, such as Denmark, have spent considerable time and effort trying to eliminate it completely. Like Johne's disease, Leukosis flies under the radar until it's too late. An article in Hoard's Dairyman stated that nearly half of all carcasses marked "unsalable" were infected with BLV. BLV-positive cows also had a 23% higher chance of being culled than their non-infected herdmates. BLV has been shown to decrease milk production, reduce reproductive function and cause down cows. It is estimated that 40% of the cows in 90% of the dairy herds in the United States have Bovine Leukosis Virus.

So the question is – what can you do about it? There is no treatment or vaccine for BLV, but there is a 98% accurate milk test. Once you have determined the level of infection in your herd, you can mark BLV-positive cows and take action to stop the spread of the disease. BLV is transferred via white blood cells, so focus on anything that might touch blood – that includes sharing needles, palpation gloves, colostrum and waste milk. When BLV-positive cows have been identified, you can choose to palpate and give injections to them after healthy cows have been completed. You can also avoid feeding colostrum and waste milk from these cows. Unfortunately, the disease can also be passed in utero, so a regular testing plan is key.

Minnesota DHIA offers a simple milk test for BLV that utilizes your regular DHIA milk sample – just ask your filed representative on your next test day.

Dr. Scott Wells of the University of Minnesota will be speaking on Leukosis at the Central District Meeting at the Cornerstone in Melrose on Thursday March 5 at noon. All members are welcome to attend.

January Milk Quality Leaders ranked by SCC, then Log SCC

*denotes herd owner name used in lieu of farm name

	SCC	Cows		SCC	Cows
*JASON HESSE	33	101	BROOKSIDE DAIRY	72	478
*RANDY GRABAU	37	27	*LYNN + RACHEL MILLER	73	96
*DANIEL HOEN	38	28	*DAVID SMITH	73	25
LEROY DROPPS	39	26	TESSMER DAIRY	74	50
*CORY SALZL	39	4	HILKE-ERIC	74	98
CHUCKKLAPHAKE JARRETTBORG	45	106	*DOUG PELKA	74	56
BENGTSON FAMILY FARM	46	46	*KELLY AND KURTIS RONNINGEN	77	96
*JOHN LARSEN	46	20	WALTER BROS FARM	77	381
NU-DIMENSION HOLSTEINS	46	31	DEER BROOK FARM	78	373
MOGER FARMS	46	67	LUX-URY HOLSTEINS INC.	78	140
*MICHAEL BRUCE	47	81	*JAY + MARIE NOSKA	78	47
*MARK KLEHR	48	58	MERDAN DAIRY	78	80
*JOSH & NICOLE MILLER	49	72	*MAYNARD & JEREMY SCHUMACHER	79	108
*ANDY & DARIENNE FRICKSON	51	86	*FRANCIS & THERESA RYNDA	79	48
SUNSETVIEW FARM	51	9	*DAVID & SUE OLSON	80	301
*RICK & PETER HEUER	52	81	O'REILLY DAIRY CASEY	80	95
MAREN JEREMY HOLST LTD	53	98	*MIKE AND DONNA TELLERS	80	58
*REUBEN& JANICE STOMMES	54	66	*GREGORY P. ZILKA	80	32
CRONK DAIRY	54	36	*KEVIN SPLETT	82	53
ACKERMAN FARMS	56	106	*PETER+DAVID BURFEIND	83	284
SCHEFERS BROTHERS	56	75	HIGH POINT DAIRY	83	103
J&K HEMMESCH DAIRY	57	41	AUSPICIOUS OYSTER GRANGE	83	87
SEXTON STACI	57	45	BEMBOOM DAIRY	85	99
*KEVIN+CAROL SCHAFER	58	26	*JERON NATHE	85	326
*DEREK SCHMITZ	58	15	PAUL MARTIN	85	31
RIVER VALLEY DAIRY LLC	59	110	BREEZY HILL DAIRY	86	516
MARSHALL KORN	60	68	HIESERICH FARM	86	87
*MICHAEL & DONNA RUTHER	61	128	*RYAN KNISLEY	86	63
*JOHN & JASON SCHROEDER	61	56	*MATT BERKTOLD	86	175
TWIN SPRUCE	62	87	*RICHARD MILLER+SONS	86	156
BECHTOLD BROS	62	70	CASEY ACRES INC	86	89
*MIKE HERZING	62	30	*JOHN & KRIS MILLER	86	244
KIMM'S DAIRY	63	79	LONE OAK DAIRY	87	213
LARRY & ROGER LOOS	64	52	FOLTZ DAIRY FARM INC.	87	83
SCHREIBER BROS	64	88	*ROBERT & RAMONA WIPPLER	87	33
GREGORY DAIRY LLC	65	88	*JEFFREY D AND SUSAN THOE	88	48
*DAN HALLBERG	65	57	GEHL ACRES FARM	89	135
VON WAHLDE DAIRY INC.	65	131	*MARVIN RADEMACHER	89	58
RONALD & SUSAN JOHNSON	66	56	*GREG AND KRISTIN MAHONEY	89	19
MIKE & LORI BOESL	68	252	FAUST DAIRY	89	130
*DANIEL & ANNETTE GREGOR	68	64	GUNDERSON BROS	89	68
SELKE FARMS	68	239	*JACOB + GREG GOLOMBESKI	89	35
JOHNSON DENNIS+DARREN	68	168	*JUSTIN & TRACIE FROELICH	89	67
*GENE SCHMIDT	68	39	*CALVIN AND TAMMY BEUMER	89	50
QUINCY VALLEY FARM	68	73	*GARY LEHNERTZ	90	182
LITTLE MINK CREEK DAIRY	70	43	*ART AND JANE STUMPF	90	54
*JAMES C PFEIFER	70	57	*RICHARD LAMBRECHT	90	99
*TIMOTHY A. STOLTMAN	71	59	*DALE AUSTING	91	116
TA LEONARD REG HOLSTEINS	71	49	*STACY & JULIE MILLER	91	94
DEVOINE KRUSE	72	145	*JEFF WIEBUSCH	91	109
			*VINCENT & SHERI SEXTON	91	93