

Minnesota DHIA News

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Winter member meeting schedule

Minnesota DHIA member meetings are scheduled for 75 minutes and start with a 15-minute business meeting to include nominations for south-central, southeast, and metro directors and state delegate nominations, and brief announcements. This will be followed by the featured speaker. Attend one or all!

February 15, 2024 – 12:30 PM

"What's new" mini-series

Three speakers are welcomed in to give a high-level overview of their projects related to collection and use of milk recording data followed by a group roundtable Q&A. Topics include (a) Initiatives of National DHIA, (b) Research and development of genetic evaluations, and (c) HerdHQ: Intro to a new web-based platform for on-farm management.

February 20, 2024 – 12:30 PM

Milk fatty acids: results and application

Brad Heins, Professor, University of Minnesota WCROC, Morris

Brad specializes in applied research in many areas of dairy cattle management, especially organic and grazing systems, housing, genetics, and energy use for dairies. He is currently leading a project on Fatty Acid yields and ratios and how milk fatty acids can provide insight in the on-farm management of feedstuffs, grazing, breed composition, methane production, and more.

February 21, 2024 – 12:30 PM

Mental health on the farm

Ted Matthews, Director of MN Rural Mental Health, MN Dept of Agriculture

Ted is a mental health practitioner with over 30 years of experience in counseling in rural areas. He has extensive counseling experience in the areas of PTSD, crisis intervention, family issues, suicidology and domestic abuse. Ted's focus has been farmer mental health support in recent years. He fully understands the extreme pressure that farmers are facing today. Ted is the local expert who farmers across the state call with a question about mental health or suicide. He further offers his expertise to help the general population to better understand farming culture.

February 28, 2024 – 12:30 PM

Developing a national genetic evaluation for dairy cow mobility and hoof health

Gerard Cramer, Associate professor, Dept of Vet Population Med, Univ. of Minnesota

Gerard's research focus is to develop and evaluate safe and effective prevention and intervention strategies for common foot diseases. He is the research lead on a grant with CDCB to aggregate observations from mobility camera and hoof health records provided by farms to create a pipeline for genetic evaluation of hoof health and on-farm hoof health management tools.

February 29, 2024 – 12:30 PM

Dry-off and selective dry cow therapy best practices

Luciano Caixeta, Associate professor, Dept of Vet Population Med, Univ. of Minnesota

Luciano's research interests include metabolic and infectious diseases, Immune response and immunotherapeutics, and dairy systems biology. Here, he presents important considerations for the dry period, including blanket vs selective dry cow therapy, teat sealant, considerations for high-producing cows prior to dry-off, and grouping strategy.

DART user's webinar

A DART webinar (separate from the Member meetings series) is being organized. A few basic topics will be covered such as event entry, setting up protocols, changing cow information, & building reports. A substantial amount of time will be devoted to addressing your specific questions. Date and time will be forthcoming.

REGISTER TODAY for one or several webinars by emailing Nancy Zander at NancyZ@mndhia.org and she will email you the Zoom link prior to the meeting.

More robust herd insights available with HerdHQ

Last month, we talked about HerdHQ, a new suite of online herd management tools for herd owners & managers, and their consultants. Specifically, we covered the generalities of the HerdHQ tools, and took a deeper look at CowCompass and KeepOrBeef. To catch up on those topics, refer back to the December *Minnesota DHIA News* or see our HerdHQ info on our website: www.mndhia.org/HerdHQ.

HerdHQ is available to ALL herds processing with DRMS. However, more frequent data input is a feature specifically available for DART users.



What is HerdHQ?

What makes HerdHQ unique?

- Easy to set up for herd owners managers with **no need for special programming and software**
- Pre-designed reports allow for easy modification **on your own time and without external support**
- Input data comes from either your test day results or daily DartSync upload (DART users)
- Fast insights and decision making!

Minnesota DHIA is working with processing center, DRMS, to fine-tune knowledge and training around HerdHQ for dairy producers and consultants—and we're learning too! Recently announced: **HerdHQ is now available free during January 2024; plus, member accounts will be given a 30-day free trial** for each of the 6 tools starting February 1st. Each tool's trial period may be initiated separately. Ongoing pricing for HerdHQ will be forthcoming.

Be an early adopter! Join Minnesota DHIA and our DRMS partners for a **free HerdHQ test drive**. Please email Amy Loeschke at AmyL@mndhia.org for more info and to get started.

In this month's *Minnesota DHIA News*, read on for an in-depth look at **DairyDepot and HeiferHub**. Stay tuned for our February *Minnesota DHIA News* for features on ActivityAlerts and MilkMetrics.

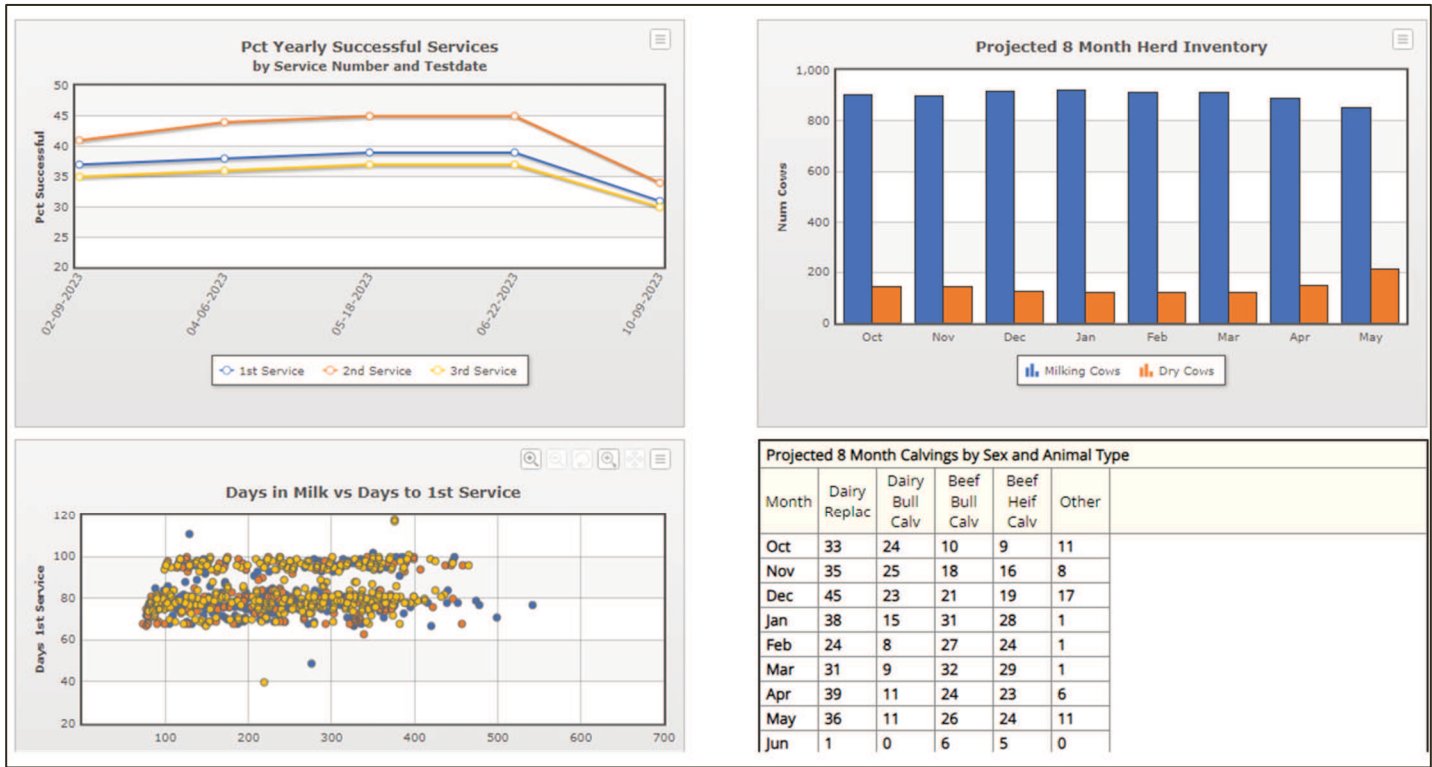
HeiferHub from HerdHQ

Use your breeding, culling, and calving performance to **project inventories of future heifer replacements under various semen usage scenarios**. Then, input your market prices for heifers, dairy bull calves, and beef-on-dairy bull calves plus semen cost to **compute profit scenarios from your semen usage** (example below). Use HeiferHub's flexibility to adjust desired outcomes and make semen purchase decisions with confidence. Both 9-month and 30-month projected heifer inventories are calculated. Monitor recent weeks and months to see whether your herd is on track to achieve breeding and replacement goals.

(continued on Page 3)

DairyDepot from HerdHQ

Build your own personalized dashboard from over 100 new tables, charts, and graphs to monitor herd performance across a variety of herd management areas (example image below). **View historic trends and current performance** of your herd beyond the presets available in DART. Includes several click-able grids and graphs to view individual cow data.



Interested in using Herd HQ? Email Amy Loeschke at AmyL@mndhia.org. Please include your herd code, contact name and phone number. Amy can then grant you access.



Transferring in New Cows?

Our data handling systems make this process easy. No keying in lengthy REG or TAG numbers, pedigrees, and historical events.

- Have these 2 items available for your field tech on sample day:
- the 8-digit herdcode from her original herd, and
 - her permanent ID (Index or BarnName).

For herds with software, cows that originated in another Minnesota DHIA herd can be transferred immediately.

Contact Alicia Vogl (AliciaV@mndhia.org or 763-682-1091 ext. 36)

December Milk Quality Leaders, ranked by SCC then Log SCC

Producer Name	Town	SCC	Cows	Producer Name	Town	SCC	Cows
HARMONY HILLS DAIRY	VICTORIA	22	50	*PAUL KAJER	NEW PRAGUE	79	19
HAPPKE HOLSTEIN FARM	PIERZ	30	105	*PAUL & ANDREW MIRON	HUGO	79	138
SWEET DREAMS AYRSHIRES	LAKE CITY	33	8	REUTER FARMS	HASTINGS	81	140
RKB DAIRY	FARIBAULT	36	140	KRAIG&RACHELLE KRIENKE	LESTER PRAIRIE	81	632
*MAYNARD & JEREMY SCHUMACHER	PLAINVIEW	37	126	*MIKE MENZE	OTTERTAIL	81	84
BURKE DAIRY INC	SEBEKA	38	186	SCHEFERS BROTHERS	PAYNESVILLE	81	70
*MATT BERKTOLD	LAKE CITY	45	200	THISTLE DEW DAIRY	WESTBROOK	82	141
SUNNY SIDE DAIRY	MAYER	46	143	MCANDREWS DAIRY	SAUK CENTRE	82	471
GEHL ACRES FARM	CAMERON,WI	47	139	*ADAM WHITEAKER	MANTORVILLE	82	67
JASSEL HOLSTEINS	ALEXANDRIA	47	82	*RANDY WAGNER	WEBSTER	82	357
GLEN & BECKY CHRISTEN	SAUK CENTRE	51	36	WALTER BROS FARM	PLUMMER	83	428
HOUDEK DAIRY LLC	CALEDONIA	52	506	HYDE-PARK HOLSTEINS	ZUMBRO FALLS	83	766
WALNUT ROW FARM LLC	SPRING GROVE	54	22	STADICK FARM INC	NEW ULM	84	178
*TREVOR DICKE	GOODHUE	55	99	*JIM & MARILYN SCHUMER	ST STEPHEN	84	78
*DEB HEUER	LITCHFIELD	55	29	MARSHALL KORN	ATWATER	85	58
PINE-VUE FARMS	ROLLINGSTONE	55	92	*JOE LENZMEIER	SHAKOPEE	85	50
KIMM'S DAIRY	PELICAN RAPIDS	56	86	FUNKS MIDWAY DAIRY	MELROSE	85	797
*NICK + DENNIS TATGE	FARIBAULT	56	263	KUECHLE DAIRY	WATKINS	85	243
SCHULTE FARMS	CALEDONIA	57	282	CHAIN O LAKES DAIRY	BLUE EARTH	86	271
VIRCHOW DAIRY	GLENVILLE	59	35	STELLING FARMS	MILLVILLE	86	301
ACKERMAN FARMS	SAUK RAPIDS	60	105	*NATHAN & BRIDGET GIBBS	ROLLINGSTONE	86	208
*PAUL SCHUMACHER	HOUSTON	61	77	*DAVID FLOM	DENNISON	87	31
*DAN BRASCH	BROWNTON	61	21	SOUTHVIEW DAIRY LLC	COLOGNE	88	116
HOEFS' DAIRY	NEW PRAGUE	67	288	VOGT DAIRY LLC	SAUK CENTRE	88	314
*DEVOINE KRUSE	CALEDONIA	68	241	BEAVER OAK DAIRY	ALTURA	88	134
*ANDREW PRIMUS	MELROSE	68	41	RIVER CITY DAIRY	HASTINGS	89	407
MERDAN DAIRY INC	AVON	68	82	SCHEFFLER DAIRY	ZUMBROTA	89	151
JOHNSON DAIRY	HERON LAKE	69	95	*RODERICK DUESTERHOEFT	STEWART	89	28
TRAIL SIDE HOLSTEINS	FOUNTAIN	70	734	BROOKSIDE DAIRY	CLITHERALL	89	527
*JOHN & KRIS MILLER	PLAINVIEW	70	376	*RYAN KNISLEY	EDEN VALLEY	89	62
WIRTLAND HOLSTEINS	LEWISTON	70	547	ZAHBULLS HOLSTEINS LLC	PLAINVIEW	90	470
*MARK KLEHR	BELLE PLAINE	71	55	*GARY SCHLAUDERAFF	FRAZEE	91	625
*ROGER ALTENDORF	BELGRADE	71	57	CLARK FARMS,LLC	ROLLINGSTONE	91	707
BILL & NORMA ROUSAR	RICE LAKE,WI	72	46	RONALD WIRTH	RIDGELAND,WI	92	56
*JOE WUETHRICH	BROWNTON	72	28	*DARIN WALCHESKI	PIERZ	92	76
IHRKE FARMS	EYOTA	72	131	REILAND FARMS	LEROY	93	514
*JIM AND MARY EVANS	PIPESTONE	72	111	BLONIGEN DAIRY	BOWLUS	93	64
SUNSHINE ACRES	ST CHARLES	73	214	MACLAND HOLSTEINS	PINE ISLAND	93	44
MUNDT DAIRY	UTICA	73	247	FAIRVIEW DAIRY	KENYON	93	238
*MICHAEL BANSE	EITZEN	74	111	CANC	ELK RIVER	93	66
*SCOTT&MICHELLE HERBER	UTICA	74	753	HIGH POINT DAIRY	MELROSE	93	146
*DALE ANDERSON	MORA	76	32	EMERY DAIRY	DENNISON	95	167
GAR-LIN DAIRY FARMS INC.	EYOTA	76	1964	*LLOYD AND JULIE BLOMMEL	FREEPORT	95	162
ERICKSONS DAIRY	BECKER	76	59	BONOW FARMS	LEWISTON	96	297
IMAGE-POINT DAIRY	RICE LAKE,WI	77	67	DANINGER INC	FOREST LAKE	97	124
MICHEL'S BROTHERS	PELICAN RAPIDS	77	39	*ROGER ALDINGER	WINONA	97	112
LAX-PIETIG DAIRY LLC	FAIRFAX	77	1076	SUNSHINE DAIRY LLC	ARLINGTON	100	96
MEL & SPENCER HACKETT	RICE	78	166	*SCOTT FEINE	RUSHFORD	100	69
BITZAN BOVINES	GARFIELD	78	69	TWIN SPRUCE	ROSE CREEK	101	87
*JEFF PETERMEIER	MELROSE	78	54	*MARK BROSIG	ALTURA	101	270