

The Nutrition Program

Planning the Feeding Program

by J. R. Dunham

Now is a good time to plan and set goals for 1998. The feeding program should receive special attention because it impacts productivity and profitability more than any other program.

The nutrition program should be built around quality forages, especially for early lactation cows. Therefore, make a goal to produce or procure high quality forages and allocate them to the high producing cows. If less than optimum alfalfa is available, find storage where it can be fed to late lactation cows and replacement heifers.

The next goal is to test the forages and balance the rations from the test results. Many dollars in protein and mineral supplement costs can be saved by balancing the grain mix according to the forage analysis.

Dry cow feeding and management should receive special attention. The next lactation will be affected by the body condition score, mastitis control and dry cow transition rations—don't overlook the dry cows. A comparison of the 1st and 2nd lactation Summit Milk Yield can tell a lot about the success of the dry cow program.

Another goal is to feed balanced rations for high production. Income over feed cost is higher in high producing herds even with high priced feeds.

Don't forget to feed the replacement heifers for adequate size and development to freshen at about 24 months of age. Heifers should gain about 1.75 pounds per day for large breeds, and 1.4 to 1.5 pounds per day for the smaller breeds. Don't guess about the heifers' rations, balance according to the forage program.

Another goal should be to shop around when selecting ration ingredients. Feed costs can be reduced without affecting the nutrition program by selecting some ingredients that have a price advantage.

The most important goal for 1998 is to feed and manage the herd for high milk production because there is a greater opportunity for profit.

The nutrition program has more impact on the success of a dairy than any other component. Now is a good time to plan and set goals for the nutrition program for 1998.

James R. Dunham Extension Specialist, Dairy Science John F. Smith Extension Specialist, Dairy Science Dan Waldner Extension Specialist, Dairy Science **Contributors** Karen Schmidt Associate Professor, Dairy Products John Shirley Associate Professor, Dairy Science Jeff Stevenson Professor, Dairy Science Dave Sukup Manager, Heart of America DHI **Upcoming Events** Area DHIA Meetings January 26 Franklin County K-State Research and Extension Office, Ottawa, Kansas January 27 Valentino's, Seneca, Kansas February 3 Holidome, Hays, Kansas February 4 Amish Community Bldg., Whiteside, Kansas Kansas State University

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		Qua	rtiles		
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Ayrshire		~		-	11010
Rolling Herd Average	16,796	14,676	13,773	11,432	
Peak Milk Yield 1st	60.0	52.0	51.0	47.0	
Peak Milk Yield 2nd	76.5	69.0	57.5	52.6	
Peak Milk Yield 3rd	81.5	73.5	64.5	59.6	
Peak Milk Yield Avg.	72.5	63.5	59.0	54.3	
Income/Feed Cost	944	792	1023.5	584	
SCC Average	284.5	350.5	138	369	
Days to 1st Service	77	66	63.5	120	
Days Open	139.5	130.5	129.5	186.3	
Projected Calving Interval	13.8	13.5	13.5	15.3	
Brown Swiss					
Rolling Herd Average	20,029	15,461	14,434	13,333	
Peak Milk Yield 1st	69.2	54.5	52.1	50.5	
Peak Milk Yield 2nd	84.8	71.1	64.4	63.1	
Peak Milk Yield 3rd	92.6	77.6	69.6	67.6	
Peak Milk Yield Avg.	85.0	69.3	62.1	61.6	
Income/Feed Cost	1,280	1,184	990	789	
SCC Average	316	295	354	272	
Days to 1st Service	81	94	82	69.5	
Days Open	140	147	174	168	
Projected Calving Interval	13.8	14.0	14.9	14.7	
Guernsey					
Rolling Herd Average	15,721	14,553	13,122	12,266	
Peak Milk Yield 1st	62.0	59.5	52.5	46.0	
Peak Milk Yield 2nd	72.0	64.5	54.0	61.0	
Peak Milk Yield 3rd	73.5	65.5	70.0	54.0	
Peak Milk Yield Avg.	69.5	63.5	60	52.0	
Income/Feed Cost	1,308	803	1,067	740	
SCC Average	225	130	375	319	
Days to 1st Service	79	96	71.5	48	
Days Open	146	160	180.5	259	
Projected Calving Interval	14.0	14.5	15.1	17.7	
Holstein					
Rolling Herd Average	22,294	19,430	17,269	13,904	
Peak Milk Yield 1st	76.9	68.5	63.4	53.6	
Peak Milk Yield 2nd	95.0	84.9	76.6	65.0	
Peak Milk Yield 3rd	100.9	90.7	83.0	69.8	
Peak Milk Yield Avg.	90.4	81.5	74.9	64.1	
Income/Feed Cost	1,612	1,349	1,147	874	
SCC Average	323	362	396	478	
Days to 1st Service Days Open	88 158	91 156	85 163	83 184	
Projected Calving Interval	14.4	14.3	14.5	15.2	
· ·	11.1	1 1.0	1 1.0	10.2	
ersey Rolling Herd Average	15,707	13,253	12,168	9,986	
Peak Milk Yield 1st	53.9	47.0	42.9	44.5	
Peak Milk Yield 2nd	65.7	57.5	54.8	50.4	
Peak Milk Yield 3rd	72.4	61.8	60.2	52.8	
Peak Milk Yield Avg.	63.9	56.3	53.1	49.4	
Income/Feed Cost	1,436	946	921	627	
SCC Average	329	284	247	358	
Days to 1st Service	96	83	86	88	
Days Open	134	124	147	139	
Projected Calving Interval	13.6	13.2	14.0	13.7	

Heart of America Dairy Herd

Hay Prices*—Kansas					
	Location	Quality	Price (\$/ton)		
Alfalfa	Southwestern Kansas	Premium	105-130		
Alfalfa	Southwestern Kansas	Good	100-105		
Alfalfa	South Central Kansas	Premium	100-120		
Alfalfa	South Central Kansas	Good	90-100		
Alfalfa	Southeastern Kansas	Premium	100-110		
Alfalfa	Southeastern Kansas	Good	90-100		
Alfalfa	Northwestern Kansas	Premium	85-90		
Alfalfa	Northwestern Kansas	Good	70-80		
Alfalfa	North Central Kansas	Premium	80-100		
Alfalfa	North Central Kansas	Good	60-65		

Source: USDA Weekly Hay Report, Week ending January 6, 1998

^{*}Premium Hay RFV = 170-200Good Hay RFV = 150-170

Hay Prices—Oklahoma					
	Location	Quality	Price (\$/ton)		
Alfalfa	Central/Western, OK	Premium	100-120		
Alfalfa	Central/Western, OK	Good	75–100		
Alfalfa	Panhandle, OK	Premium	100-120		
Alfalfa	Panhandle, OK	Good	75–100		

Source: Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, December 18, 1997

Feed Stuffs Prices				
	Location	Price (\$/ton)		
SBM 48%	Kansas City	215-218		
Cotton Seed Meal	Kansas City	204		
Whole Cottonseed	Memphis	155		
Blood Meal	Central United States	460		
Corn Hominy	Kansas City	100-110		
Corn Gluten Feed	Kansas City	87-95		
Corn Gluten Meal 60%	Kansas City	355-360		
Distillers Dried Grain	Central Illinois	115-120		
Brewers Dried Grain	St. Louis	108		
Wheat Middlings	Kansas City	85-87		
Source: LISDA Weekly Food Stuffs Penort				

Source: USDA Weekly Feed Stuffs Report,

Week ending January 6, 1998

Area DHIA Meetings (continued)

February 5
Sedgwick County
K-State Research and Extension Office, Wichita, Kansas
February 6
United Methodist Church,
Hillsboro, Kansas

OSU Dairy Days April 22, Pryor, Oklahoma April 23, Chickasha, Oklahoma You are encouraged to attend one of the Kansas Area DHIA Meetings at one of the locations listed.

January 26

K-State Research & Extension Office OTTAWA

January 27

Valentino's SENECA

February 3

Holidome HAYS

February 4
Amish
Community
Building
WHITESIDE

February 5

K-State Research & Extension Office WICHITA

February 6
Methodist
Church
HILLSBORO

At these meetings, time will be allowed for your association to conduct its annual business. Heart of America DHIA is sponsoring the meeting and noon meal.

AGENDA

10:30 a.m. Refreshments

11:00 a.m. Local Association Business Meetings

Noon Lunch sponsored by Heart of America DHIA

1:00 p.m. DHIA and Dairy update

Report from Heart of America DHIA

Report from Kansas Dairy Association (KDA)

2:30 p.m. Ajourn

In order to plan for food, we need your reservation by January 23. Please clip and return the reservation slip or call one of the following K-State Research and Extension Offices:

Joe Wary

Ellis County Agent 601 Main, Suite A Hays, KS 67601 785-628-9430

David Kev

Nemaha County Agent 604 Nemaha, Ste. 201 Seneca, KS 66538 785-336-2184 **Greg McCormack**

Reno County Agent 2 W. 10th South Hutchinson, KS 67505 316-662-2371

Steve Tonn

Marion County Agent Box 178 Marion, KS 66861 785-382-2325 Steve Westfahl

Sedgwick County Agent 7001 W. 21st St. N. Wichita, KS 67205 316-722-7721

Darren Hibdon

Franklin County Agent 1418 S. Main, Suite 2 Ottawa, KS 66067 785-229-3520 Clip and send to one of the addresses to the left.

Please reserve (No.) ____ meals for the Area DHIA Meeting.

Name: ____

Dairy Lines ***

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For more information or questions, please contact 913.532.5654 (K-State) or 405.744.6058 (OSU).

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