



PDPW

MANAGERS

memo

August 6, 2013

Brought to you by Dairy's Professional Development Organization

For your Dairy Business...

TWO MILKING SCIENCE CAMPS REMAIN. Register your Hispanic employees for one of two remaining PDPW-sponsored Milking Science Camps: Aug. 7-8, Cochrane, Wis. and Aug. 21-22, Darlington, Wis. All Milking Science Camps are taught exclusively in Spanish by veterinarian Dr. Oscar Duarte.

The two-day program is devoted to cow handling, safety, residue avoidance and milking parlor techniques. Both mornings will be spent in the classroom, with afternoons spent cow-side. The camps will look into the new technologies and the best practices that ensure high quality milk is harvested from comfortable and content cows. During the camp, students will learn about what to do and the "why" behind the practice or technique.

PDPW members can register employees for \$299/person and non-PDPW members for \$399/person. Registration fee covers both days' workshops, materials and lunch. To register or to learn more, please go to www.pdpw.org or call 800-947-7379.

IDAHO DAIRY TOUR: SEPT. 25-26. Join a PDPW-organized tour of Idaho's Magic Valley - home to 70 percent of Idaho's cows. You will explore three state-of-the-art dairies, two innovative dairy processing plants and a 38,800-head custom-calf business. During the two-day tour, you will interact firsthand with cutting-edge individuals and companies and get a taste of Western culture. Farm stops include Bettencourt Dairies, which milks more than 50,000 cows; Double A Dairy, with the largest manure-based digester system in the United States; Si-Ellen Dairy, which-along with its sister dairy-ships 650,000 pounds of milk a day; and Crestview Calf Ranch, which takes 26,500 calves from day-old to upwards of 450 pounds.

Also included are exclusive tours of Idaho Milk Products and Glanbia, plus discussions with top

management from each of the respective tour stops. There's no end to the value of this tour—from networking with fellow industry colleagues, to gathering tips and techniques to implement back home on the dairy. To learn more about this tour and register online go to www.pdpw.org or call 800-947-7379.

"HONING IN ON NEW REPLACEMENT HEIFER RESEARCH" is our World-Class Webinar series led by Pat Hoffman, University of Wisconsin Dairy Science Professor. Join us on August 14 and September 18 to learn more on the latest research regarding genomics and dairy heifer management.

The next webinar of this series, Wednesday, August 14, will delve into the full genomic program of the UW-Madison Integrated Dairy Research Facility. The program's valuable results bring to light both the challenges and advantages of managing dairy heifer genomics. Please register online at www.pdpw.org by August 7th. Remember, you can participate on that Wednesday at noon or view the webinar recording at your convenience.

The final webinar in this series, "Dairy Heifer Management: Pitfalls and Paradigms" will be held on Wednesday, September 18; registration deadline on September 11.

Registration for one webinar is \$100 for PDPW members and \$125 for non-PDPW members. To register or to check out details about all webinars, visit us at www.pdpw.org.

CALVES BORN TO HEAT-STRESSED LATE-GESTATION COWS weigh less at birth and their immunity is compromised, compared with calves born to dams with access to cooling. That's the finding of a recently published University of Florida study that involved 34 Holstein dry cows in their last 45 days of gestation. Half of the dry cows were exposed to ambient environmental conditions while the other half was cooled by fans and sprinklers.

Calves born to the heat-stressed dams weighed 13 pounds less at birth and 28 pounds less at weaning than those born to dams with access to cooling. Calves born to heat-stressed dams were also less efficient at absorbing IgG from colostrum and had lower serum IgG concentrations for the first 28 days of life. Cell-mediated immunity was also negatively impacted in the calves born to heat-stressed dams.

FIVE TIPS TO ALLEVIATE HEAT STRESS. With hot weather causing a drop in milk production by 10 to 15 pounds per cow per day—and impacting newborn calf health, North Dakota State University Extension Service dairy specialist J.W. Schroeder urges dairy producers to not wait until hot weather subsides to implement effective strategies. Schroeder offers these tips for alleviating summer heat stress in dairy cows: 1) Cover feed bunks to prevent spoilage from heating in the summer sun and soaking in thunderstorms. 2) Cool cows with fans and sprinklers. 3) Reduce the cow group size to reduce the time the animals spend in the holding pen and provide ample fans in the holding pen to move hot air away from cows. 4) Provide the cows with clean water, having at least two water vessels per group, with a water supply of at least 5 gallons per minute. 5) Modify feed rations, which can increase energy supply and decrease heat load on the cow.

KEEP FARM FANS OPERATING EFFICIENTLY by maintaining them properly. University of Wisconsin - Extension Service offers two important maintenance tips: 1) Because loose belts can reduce fan output by 30 percent, new fans should have automatic belt tensioning devices. Depending on the type and age of your current fans, you may be able to retrofit them with automatic belt tensioning devices. This will help to ensure the fans run efficiently during the busy spring and summer seasons when fieldwork demands are high. 2) Because dirty shutters can reduce fan output by 40 percent, guards should be cleaned regularly and the shutters lubricated with a dry graphite lubricant.

If you are in the market for new fans, remember, not all fans are created equal. The efficiency of fans, cubic feet per minute/watt, varies greatly even among the same size fan. Do not rely on manufacturer's data unless it has been backed by an independent testing organization such as the BESS Lab at the University of Illinois (<http://www.bess.uiuc.edu/index2.htm>) or the Air

Movement and Control Association (<http://www.amca.org>). Both organizations have websites where the data for the fans that have been tested is available.

For your Business Mind...

DAIRY PRODUCERS, RURAL RESIDENTS, LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS AND INDIVIDUALS INTERESTED IN KEEPING WISCONSIN GREEN AND VIBRANT are invited to participate in an Agricultural Community Engagement (ACE) On-the-Farm Twilight Meeting - a joint effort of the Professional Dairy Producers, Wisconsin Town Association and Wisconsin Counties Association.

Each ACE On-the-Farm Twilight Meeting kicks off with a 60-minute tour of the host dairy, followed by ice cream and an open discussion where dairy producer, officials and citizens have the opportunity to learn from one another. ACE On-the-Farm Twilight Meetings are being held at six locations across the state: Aug. 19, Holsum Elm Dairy, Hilbert, Wis.; Aug. 20, Darlington Ridge Farms, Darlington, Wis.; Aug. 26, So-Fine Bovines LLC, Westfield, Wis.; Aug. 27, Ocooch Dairy, Hillsboro, Wis.; Aug. 28, Brickner-Meikle Family Farms, Sturgeon Bay, Wis.; and Aug. 29, Denmark Dairy, Colfax, Wis.

While reservations for each of the ACE On-the-Farm Twilight Meetings are encouraged, walk-ins are welcome. Reservations should be made to the Wisconsin Towns Association one week prior to each meeting. Phone: 715-526-3157. Email: wtowns@frontiernet.net. To learn more about the ACE On-the-Farm Twilight Meetings, please contact PDPW at 800-947-7379.

PDPW LAUNCHES NEW AND IMPROVED WEBSITE. PDPW's website is the go-to place for event announcements, program registrations, and the important dairy resources your farm uses throughout the year. On August 15, PDPW will launch a user-friendly, simple and streamlined website to enhance your experience and ability to quickly access your program and resource needs. Visit us at www.pdpw.org to see the exciting changes for yourself!

SAFETY TIP. Using a black marker, write down the GPS location of your dairy's headquarters on the inside door of every vehicle, tractor, and anything with an engine and wheels on the farm. Then tell everyone who uses the vehicles what this information means. Should an accident ever occur, the coordinates of your dairy are handy and this valuable information can quickly and easily be given to Emergency Medical Services.

IT CAN HAPPEN TO YOU. If you think grain handling injuries and death are something that won't happen to you, a family member or an employee on your dairy, OSHA and the Wisconsin Agri-Business Association want you to think again.

It takes only five seconds for a worker to become engulfed in flowing grain and unable to get out. It takes just 60 seconds for a worker to be completely submerged in flowing grain, with more than half of all grain engulfment resulting in death by suffocation. In addition to reviewing best practices with workers, why not attach a stop sign decal to grain bin doors, in order to remind your workers to lockout potentially hazardous equipment, stay clear of waist-high grain, cover floor holes and to follow other best practices. One can obtain this stop sign decal by emailing the Grain and Feed Association of Illinois at info@gfai.org.

BOOK REVIEW: *Switch: How to Change Things When Change is Hard*. Authors Chip and Dan Heath bring together decades of counterintuitive research in psychology, sociology and other fields to shed new light on how we can effect transformative change. Using story-driven narrative, the authors shows how managers, employees and others have eliminated the tug of war between their rational mind and their emotional mind to bring about and sustain significant change. Whether you want to transform a ho-hum team to a performance-driven team,

change the world or change your waistline, Switch can help you achieve dramatic results.

FAMILY PHOTOS 50 YEARS FROM NOW? Anyone who has ever looked through a shoebox of old family photos knows the memories evoked from this experience. But, with a majority of photos being digital, will family members have this same opportunity 25, 50 or more years from now? In addition to keeping your digital photos on your iPad, phone and computer, why not print out your favorites and place them in a keepsake box.

PDPW Education Calendar

August 7-8	Milking Science Camp (taught in Spanish) - Cochrane, WI
August 14	World-Class Webinar Honing In on New Replacement Heifer Research - Managing Dairy Heifers in the Age of Genomics with Pat Hoffman
August 19, 20, 26, 27, 28, 29	Ace On-The-Farm Twilight Meetings - 19th - Hilbert, WI 20th - Darlington, WI 26th - Westfield, WI 27th - Hillsboro, WI 28th - Sturgeon Bay, WI 29th - Colfax, WI
August 21-22	Milking Science Camp (taught in Spanish) - Darlington, WI
September 18	World-Class Webinar Honing In on New Replacement Heifer Research - Dairy Heifer Management: Pitfalls and Paradigms with Pat Hoffman
September 25-27	Idaho Dairy Tour - Twin Falls, ID
March 12-13, 2014	PDPW Business Conference - Alliant Energy Center Madison WI

STAY CONNECTED



www.pdpw.org

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