

DAIRY 2014 FOCUS GROUP MEETING

Objective 1: Describe baseline dairy cattle health and management practices and trends in dairy farm health management

- **Cow Comfort / Animal Welfare / Longevity**
 - Animal health / lameness
 - Proper nutrition, disease (Johne's), reproduction failure, hoof disorders
 - Breeding (cross bred, other genetics)
 - Handling
 - Pain management, dehorning, castration, low stress
 - Housing/ Environment
 - Flooring - cement surfaces, overcrowding, bedding, cleanliness
 - Facility/ stall size, dimensions, climate control, ventilation
 - Mortality and culling rates
 - Early lactation- involuntary culling, high rates
 - Short life span (higher production)

Objective 2: Evaluate management factors that are related to optimal cow comfort and reduced removal rates.

- **Biosecurity / Costs of Disease**
 - Diseases
 - BVD, Johne's, Leptospirosis, subclinical mastitis
 - Strategies
 - Identification of disease
 - Treatment/ No treatment –
 - Economics, cost controls
 - Cost of a biosecurity program
 - Risk assessment
 - Prevention- colostrum, vaccination
 - On farm
 - Biocontainment
 - Bioterrorism

Objective 3: Describe current biosecurity practices and determine producer motivation for implementing or not implementing proper biosecurity practices

- **Udder Health (including pathogens)**
 - Milking: routines, procedures, management
 - Effects on quality
 - Udder prep
 - Conformation
 - Pathogen Identification

- Staph, mycoplasma, klebsiella, environmental, E. coli, contagious, chronic,
- Mode of transmission
- o Prevention/ treatment
 - Mastitis
 - Dry cow
 - Culling
- o SCC (high vs. low)
 - Testing and culturing

Objective 4: Describe current milking procedures and determine the prevalence of common mastitis pathogens

- **Nutrition**

- o Rations
 - Forage quality
 - Grazing management
 - Nutrient (starch) availability
 - TMR
 - Transition cow diets, maintenance
- o Diseases
 - Acidosis
- o Mycotoxins

Objective 5: Determine the extent of mycotoxin contamination of feeds

- **Calf health and management**

- o Nutrition
 - Calf milk replacer, waste milk, pasteurization
 - When offered hay, grain and water
 - starter formulation
- o Housing
- o Diseases
 - Johne's
 - Scours – E. coli
- o Prevention/ Management
 - Colostrum – passive transfer measures
 - Vaccination
 - Sanitation

Objective 6: Describe dairy calf health and evaluate nutrition and disease prevention practices

- ***Mycobacterium avium* subspecies *paratuberculosis* (Johne's)**

- o Prevalence
- o Diagnosis
 - Herd screening/testing
- o Prevention

Objective 7: Determine the U.S. herd-level infection prevalence

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- **Lameness / Hoof Health / Injury**

- o Prevalence
- o Causes
- o Diseases
 - Hairy heel warts, foot rot, sole ulcers, laminitis, hypocalcemia
- o Housing
- o Prevention
 - Foot bath, other treatments
 - Proper hoof care

Objective 8: see objective 1

- **Calf Diarrheal Diseases**

- o Prevalence
- o Passive transfer
- o Pathogens
 - Coccidiosis, Cryptosporidium, E. coli
- o Treatment
- o Prevention/management
- o Mortality rate

Objective 9: Determine the percent of calves with failure of passive transfer and evaluate the association between herd level management and reported disease prevalence

- **Bovine Viral Diarrhea (BVD)**

- o Prevalence
 - Vaccinations
- o Identifying, monitoring PI
- o Prevention
 - Herd screening/testing

Objective 10: Determine the prevalence of infected operations and evaluate testing options for bulk milk

- **Food Safety Pathogens (Salmonella, Campylobacter, E coli.)**

- o Prevalence
- o Diagnosis
- o Management
 - Monitoring
- o Prevention
 - Vaccination

Objective 11: Determine the prevalence of specific food safety pathogens

