2013 WESTERN PROGRESS REPORT

CanWest DHI

2013

CanWest DHI Western Herd Improvement Report

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The Canadian dairy industry has seen a significant increase in the rate of genetic gain during the past half-decade as a result of genomics. The challenge for our dairy producers is to ensure that each animal reaches their genetic potential. This can only be accomplished with diligent herd management throughout the life of each animal. This year's edition of the Western Herd Improvement Report is our opportunity to recognize those individuals who have achieved above average performance as a result of their herd management skills.

In a salute to each provinces' outstanding herd managers, inside you will find listings of the top herds and individual profiles of some of the best dairy herd managers in the country. In addition to the top BCA herds, we also include a list of the top Management Scores recognizing these outstanding dairy herd managers.

This will be our third year to include a list of herds with the lowest SCC results for the year to recognize those with outstanding udder health management. Congratulations to Tom DeGroot of Rosedale, BC, who not only has the lowest herd average SCC results for the province of BC, but the entire CanWest region. With 105 completed records last year, an SCC herd average of 42,000 is a very noteworthy accomplishment. In light of the importance of reduced cell counts from the perspectives of milk quality, cow health and farm profitability, we have now made this list a regular feature.

Inside you will also find a number of articles written by recognized industry specialists addressing dairy herd management issues including genomics, disease management, DHI data processing in the US, and a look at our industry 10 years after BSE.

For those looking to compare their performance against the rest of the industry, we have a number of different statistical summaries and benchmark tables to provide various comparisons. This information includes listings of the top Management herds (including all DHI herds) and the top Publishable herds (only those on breed approved programs) in each province.

Thanks to our sponsors for their financial contribution to this annual publication. Their advertisements appear throughout this edition and I encourage you to view their messages.

Neil Petreny
General Manager
CanWest DHI

Merial (Annafen)

DHI record processing in the United States

Ian Rumbles, Quality Assurance Specialist, Dairy Records Management Systems, Raleigh, North Carolina

There are about 49,000 dairy farms in the United States, with about 18,000 herds involved with a Dairy Herd Improvement organization. DHI samples are tested at one of the 40 labs and test day information collected by the 24 DHI field service organizations is processed at one of four processing centers. Many DHI organizations allow the producers to choose which processing center they wish to use. Processing center choices are based on the reports available, herd management software used, processing costs and customer service.

Agri-Tech Analytics is located on the west coast and processes records for 560 herds and over 840 thousand cows (primarily the cows with the California DHIA organizations). The company was formed in 1972 by a producer organization and purchased in 2004 by the Holstein Association of USA. They work very closely with Valley Ag Software, the company responsible for Dairy Comp 305.

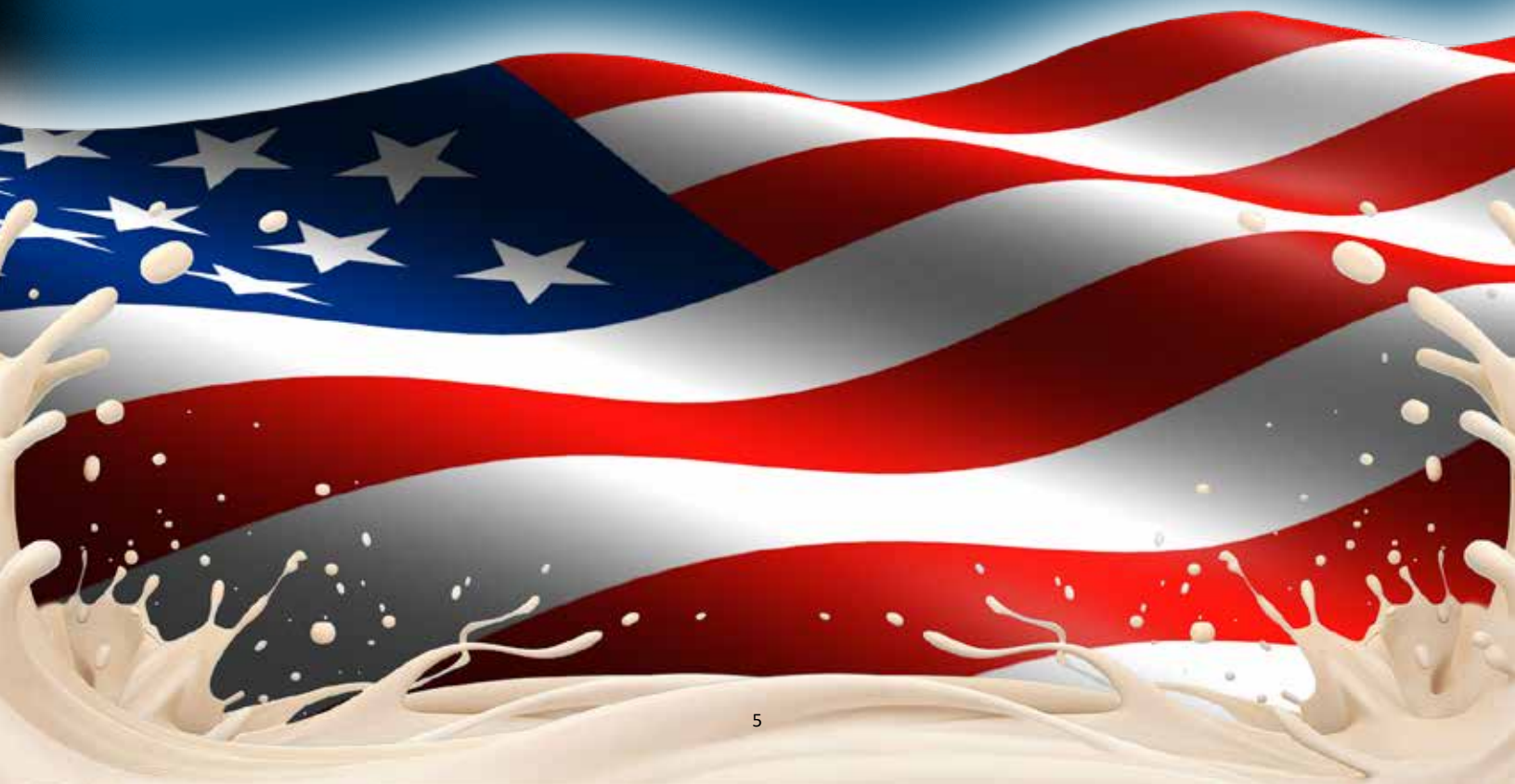
DHI Provo, located in Utah, is the most unique of the record processing centers. This is a privately owned company, which started in 1954, by Bliss Crandall, widely known as the "father of computerized dairy records". Not only do they process records for many states, but also for herds in South America. The company also provides computing services for the banking and health care sectors.

In 1957, dairy record processing was started in Wisconsin by a producer owned cooperative that eventually would become an integrated dairy services company called AgSource. While they are the smallest of the dairy record processing centers, processing about 630 thousand cow records per year, they are one of the most integrated providing DHI services, AI services (Genex) and a full spectrum of analytical services (feed, water, manure and soil). This organization continues to be a cooperative in a highly intensive dairy area.

Dairy Records Management Systems (DRMS), located in Raleigh, North Carolina, is the largest dairy record processing center in the United States. They process over 13,000 herds (70% of the DHI herds in the US) and 2 million cows annually, from 45 states.

Started in 1957 as a unit of the North Carolina State University, in 1996 it joined with the record processing center located in Ames, Iowa to form the current DRMS. With a high emphasis on customer service, support staff is located in both Raleigh, NC and Ames, IA. DRMS provides over 60 different types of herd management reports that are printed and distributed from six locations across the US.

Providing herd management information to producers and their advisors has been a focus of DRMS since it started working on personal computer software in 1979. The herd management software, PCDART is used by thousands of producers and advisors for record keeping and herd management decisions.



Merial (Eprinex)

Paying for Diseases

In 2013 about two-thirds of DHI herds in Ontario purchased just over 25,000 animals. The percentage of DHI herds in Western Canada purchasing cows last year was similar as they purchased another 13,000 animals. While each new animal is an opportunity to introduce new genetics, it is also a way to bring new disease problems into a herd.

A few years ago Dr. Herman Barkema, from the University of Calgary Veterinary College, told the DHI Annual Meeting audience in Toronto that dairy farmers pay to bring diseases into their herds. His message was essentially that we spend thousands of dollars purchasing individual animals – yet don't ask for health records or confirmation of their health status before investing.

Few people will purchase houses or used cars without an inspection. Yet many dairy producers routinely invest money in new animals without verifying their health or disease status.

What is the cost of bringing in one case of mastitis or a Johne's or Leukosis positive animal that may not have the herd life that you anticipate? Would you pay an extra $50 to know the health status of the animal you are purchasing? Would you pay this premium to know that the animal tested negative (or positive) for Johne's, Leukosis, BVD, Staph aureus, Strep ag, Mycoplasma and Prototheca?

Research suggests that the costs per incidence for common diseases are:

- **Johne's: $850/case**
- **Mastitis: $300/clinical case**
- **Leukosis: 3% herd loss**
- **BVD: $500/cow/herd**

Should you really pay full price and then assume all the risk for one or more disease incidents?

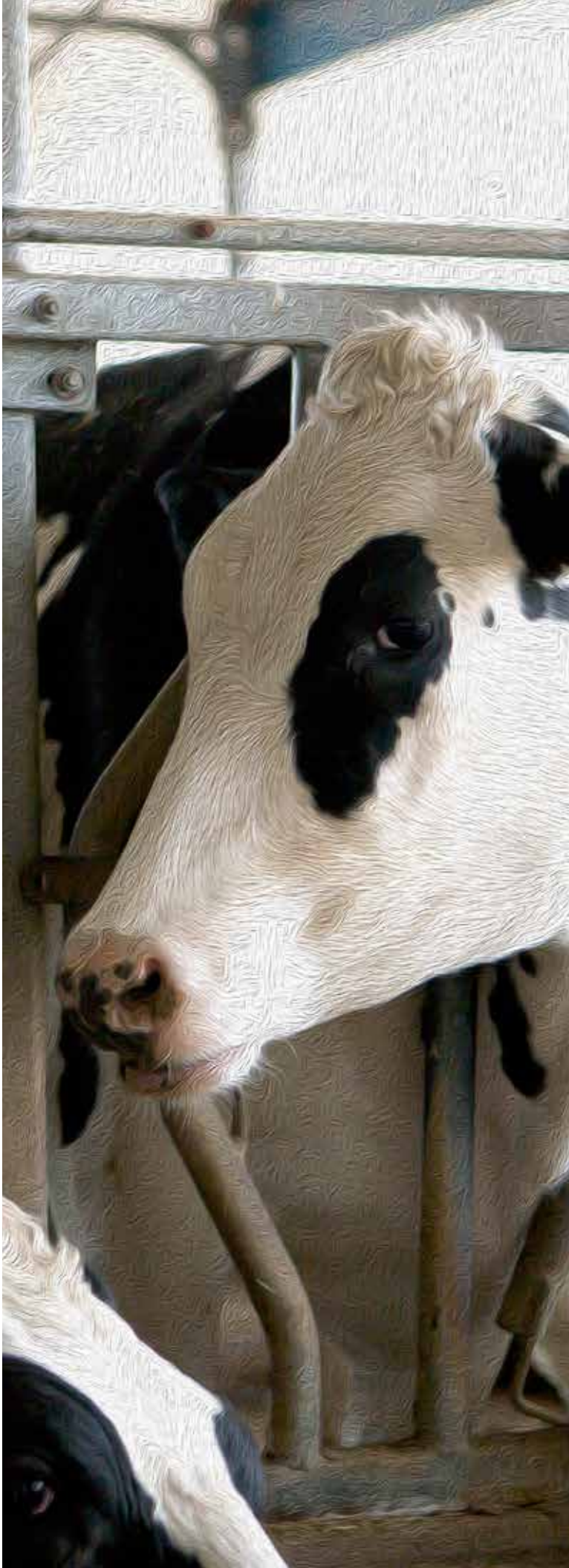
The only way we will change our industry is to change our expectations. With timely testing services and modern technologies available, there is no good reason for not having screening tests conducted. You can start now by requesting test results from your sellers. You can make purchases conditional upon negative test results. Or, you can assume the responsibility yourself and test your new animals as soon as possible. We have the opportunity to create a new normal.

Many of today's dairy farmers remember the impact of BSE when it hit our industry in 2003. Biosecurity on the farm rose to the top of the priority list due to the risk – but, for the most part, we have now returned to our old practices. Disease risks will only increase in the future as we work to control today's diseases and plan to protect ourselves from tomorrows infections.

Do your part:

- **Ask for test results before you buy**
- **Test before you buy where results are not available**
- **If necessary, test after you buy**
- **If you are selling, consider providing health results to your buyers**

Only you can make a difference and 2014 can be the start. If you plan to purchase animals this year, do it wisely and consider making health status assurances as part of the sale.



Merial (J-Vac)

Three reasons why performance data will always be important for genetic improvement

Brian Van Doormaal
General Manager, CDN

Lynsay Beavers
Industry Liaison, CDN

2014 marks five years of genomic evaluations in Canada, and has the world of genetic improvement ever changed! A common misconception brought to light over the past five years is that genomics will replace the need for traditional data recording systems such as those offered by DHI and breed associations. This is like saying because you use GPS technology in your tractor, you can sleep on the job. Yes, the technologies have improved by leaps and bounds, but this doesn't mean they can be relied on exclusively. The reality with genomics is that it requires more accurate and complete performance data to maintain the accuracy of genetic evaluations and allow for a wider list of traits to be evaluated.

1) The number of important traits continues to expand

Thanks to existing DHI data collection systems, the Canadian dairy industry has been able to make genetic decisions and realize gains for many traits including production yields, fat and protein percentages, somatic cell, longevity, fertility, calving ease, calf survival, milking speed and milking temperament. In addition, type classification data collected by Holstein Canada has allowed for selection and gain in terms of the various conformation traits.

While the list of routinely evaluated traits in Canada is extensive, it continues to grow as new and important traits are identified. Most recently, DHI's assistance in the collection of producer recorded health events has resulted in bull proofs for Mastitis Resistance that will be available starting August 2014. This new trait will provide producers the opportunity to select for increased resistance to this costly disease. In the near future, evaluations for resistance to metabolic diseases are also planned.

2) Proven bulls fuel the reference population

Genomic evaluations are more accurate than traditional evaluations thanks to a large reference population of genotyped progeny proven sires. Without a sizeable reference population, genomic evaluations would offer only small gains in accuracy.

The collection of performance data leads to a constant supply of new progeny proven bulls. Without these bulls continually fueling the reference population, young bulls selected for A.I. would get farther and farther away (less related) from the proven sires in the reference population. Over time, this would negatively affect the accuracy of genomic evaluations.

The success of genomics in Canada would not have been possible without a long history of performance recording. As we've learned, the future success of genomics depends largely on the same thing.

3) Verified on-farm data increases the reliability of a cow's genetic evaluation

By now, most producers are well aware that genotyping is the fastest way to improve the reliability of a female's genetic prediction. What some don't realize is that reliability is enhanced even further when the animal's performance data is incorporated into these predictions.

Without test day records or a classification, a cow would maintain a Parent Average (PA) for all production and type traits. Milk recording and classification data are added to the cow's contribution from PA to produce an Estimated Breeding Value (EBV) that is more accurate. For example, consider a first lactation cow that was genotyped as a heifer. Upon classification, the reliability of this animal's Conformation index will increase from 68% to 75%. Once completing a lactation, the reliability of her production evaluation will increase from 73% to 78%. Despite the jump in reliability achieved by genotyping, the incorporation of performance data boosts the reliability, making the cow's evaluation even more accurate.

The success of genomics in Canada would not have been possible without a long history of performance recording. As we've learned, the future success of genomics depends largely on the same thing. Don't set the GPS and fall asleep in the tractor - continue to fuel the accuracy of this technology by participating in traditional performance data recording programs

Merial (Cystorelin)

DHI recognizes and congratulates the following producers for outstanding udder health management resulting in low SCC in 2013.

FARM	PRODUCER	CITY	NO. OF RECORDS	AVG SCC (× 1000)
Manitoba				
Carels Hills	Michael Carels	Bruxelles	65	90
Mageo Pouteau Farms Ltd	Chris & Carla Pouteau	Mariapolis	68	99
Optimist Holsteins	H G & N Vandervliet	Otterburne	135	101
Reutter Farms Ltd	Fritz Reutter	Grunthal	313	118
Holmestead Dairy	Russ Holme	Anola	52	119
Fifi Holsteins	Gabriel Fifi	Bruxelles	31	120
Ridgeland Colony	Joseph Hofer	Dugald	71	124
Swiss Kine	Clarence Doerksen	Austin	38	125
Park Dairies	Larry & Wilma Park	Lake Francis	82	130
Readore Farms	Rheal Simon	Notre Dame	141	133
Saskatchewan				
Daum Farms	Doug Daum	Dalmeny	47	89
Cypress Colony	Darrell Entz	Maple Creek	92	102
Wheatland Colony	Mark Hofer	Cabri	99	110
Dept. Animal & Poultry Science		Saskatoon	93	122
Dinsmore Colony	David Waldner	Dinsmore	94	123
Dierker Enterprises	Neil & Terry Dierker	Mistatim	56	123
Bramville Farm	Fran & Joanne Edwards	Nokomis	56	123
Quill Lake Colony	Robert Tschetter	Quill Lake	120	125
Morsan Milkstream Ltd	Greg Thalen	Ponoka	1028	129
Robella Holsteins	Reg & Juliann Lindenbach	Balgonie	94	130
Alberta				
Houweling Farms Ltd	Pete Houweling	Coaldale	248	66
Earnewald Holsteins, Dejong Bros.	B, B & H De Jong	Lacombe	139	69
Roseglen Colony	Rueben Entz	Hilda	90	73
Sylvanside Dairy Ltd	Sipke & Margreet Dijkstra	Ponoka	154	75
Bertrand Poulin		St Paul	56	79
Deerhaven	Glenda Mutrie	Thorsby	32	80
Castor Farming Co. Ltd	Joe Wipf	Castor	130	83
Aspenridge Farms Ltd	Dick & Steve Tenhove	Blackfalds	49	84
Heini Grubenmann		Breton	100	86
Buffalorock Dairy	Jan & Joke & Berend Ridder	Olds	149	87
Prairiehome Colony Farming Co. Ltd	Jonathan Waldner	Wrenthem	111	91
Attn: Edward R. Hofer	Leedale Colony	Rimbey	51	93
Freedom Dairy	Marinus Helmus	Barrhead	74	95
Scholten Dairy	Harm & Jennie Scholten	Barrhead	80	98
Twilight Colony	Albert Entz	Falher	201	99
K 2 Dairy		Nobleford	88	99
Nellew Farms Ltd	Peter Wellen	Innisfail	134	100
Whitefisch Dairy Ltd	Beat & Priska Fischer	Rimbey	89	101
Poly-C Farms	Cor & Cathy Haagsma	Ponoka	280	102
Lathom Colony	Mike Hofer	Bassano	123	102
British Columbia				
Tom Degroot		Rosedale	105	42
Riverwater Farm Ltd	J Wikkerink	Duncan	122	54
Wikksview Farm Ltd	Fred Wikkerink	Cobble Hill	72	56

(Continued)

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LOW SCC HERDS (CONTINUED)

FARM	PRODUCER	CITY	NO. OF RECORDS	AVG SCC (× 1000)
Viewfield Farms Ltd	Dave Taylor	Courtenay	149	59
Martiann Holsteins Ltd	Martin Hamming	Delta	202	67
E & M Van Der Spek		Chilliwack	89	67
Dinn Farms Ltd	Erin Bell, Martin Dinn	Agassiz	111	68
Romyn Hill Farm Ltd	Brad & Jodi Romyn	Sorrento	44	68
Neveridle Farms	Arthur Keulen	Delta	150	69
Wernakal Holsteins Ltd	Werner Luttmerding	Armstrong	86	74
Lindrian Farms	John Tamis	Surrey	74	74
Shenandoah Dairy		Armstrong	29	77
Alder View Dairy	Walter, Kathy & Mark Enns	Aldergrove	82	80
Robert E. Emans		Mission	78	82
Milky Way Dairy	Frank & Debbie Les	Chilliwack	73	83
Bluebell Dairy	Shane Thomson	Chilliwack	47	84
Springbank Holsteins Ltd		Chilliwack	128	86
Pjv Farms Ltd	Peter Vink	Chilliwack	113	86
B & L Farms Ltd	Matt Dykshoorn	Abbotsford	48	86
Lac Roix Acres	Rayner & Sharene Oosterhoff	Telkwa	44	86

NATIONAL STATISTICS (ACTIVE AS OF YEAR END)

PROVINCE	RECORDED HERDS		RECORDED COWS		AVERAGE HERD SIZE		% OF HERDS > 50 COWS	
	2012	**2013**	2012	**2013**	2012	**2013**	2012	**2013**
British Columbia	304	**307**	46,311	**45,166**	152	**147**	91	**90**
Alberta	454	**430**	62,597	**57,533**	138	**134**	93	**93**
Saskatchewan	105	**102**	18,016	**16,995**	172	**167**	96	**96**
Manitoba	199	**195**	27,179	**27,137**	137	**139**	85	**87**
Ontario	3,103	**3,045**	242,530	**233,893**	78	**77**	64	**63**
Quebec	5,038	**4,910**	295,936	**288,220**	59	**59**	51	**51**
New Brunswick	150	**147**	11,942	**11,536**	80	**78**	64	**66**
Nova Scotia	151	**150**	12,603	**11,930**	83	**80**	70	**67**
Prince Edward Island	120	**110**	9,253	**8,620**	77	**78**	73	**69**
CANADA	9,624	**9,396**	726,367	**701,030**	75	**75**	60	**60**

STATISTICS BY PROVINCE

CALVING INTERVAL (MONTHS)

	2012	**2013**
BC	14.1	**14.0**
AB	14.0	**13.9**
SK	14.3	**14.1**
MB	14.7	**14.4**
ON	14.1	**14.0**
QC	14.0	**13.9**
NB	14.1	**14.0**
NS	14.2	**14.1**
PE	14.5	**14.4**
NF	14.0	**14.0**

*Months

AVERAGE DRY PERIOD (DAYS)

	2012	**2013**
BC	72	**73**
AB	79	**81**
SK	85	**86**
MB	90	**93**
ON	73	**73**
QC	66	**67**
NB	68	**71**
NS	74	**74**
PE	81	**85**
NF	70	**73**

*Days

AGE AT FIRST CALVING (MONTHS)

	2012	**2013**
BC	26.4	**26.4**
AB	26.5	**26.4**
SK	27.0	**26.7**
MB	28.0	**27.6**
ON	26.9	**26.6**
QC	27.0	**26.8**
NB	27.9	**27.8**
NS	27.6	**27.8**
PE	28.9	**28.4**
NF	27.1	**27.0**

*Months

SOMATIC CELL COUNT AVERAGE

	2012	**2013**
BC	185	**178**
AB	226	**213**
SK	273	**246**
MB	289	**263**
ON	254	**241**
QC	248	**229**
NB	218	**203**
NS	233	**223**
PE	214	**206**
NF	257	**239**

*Average

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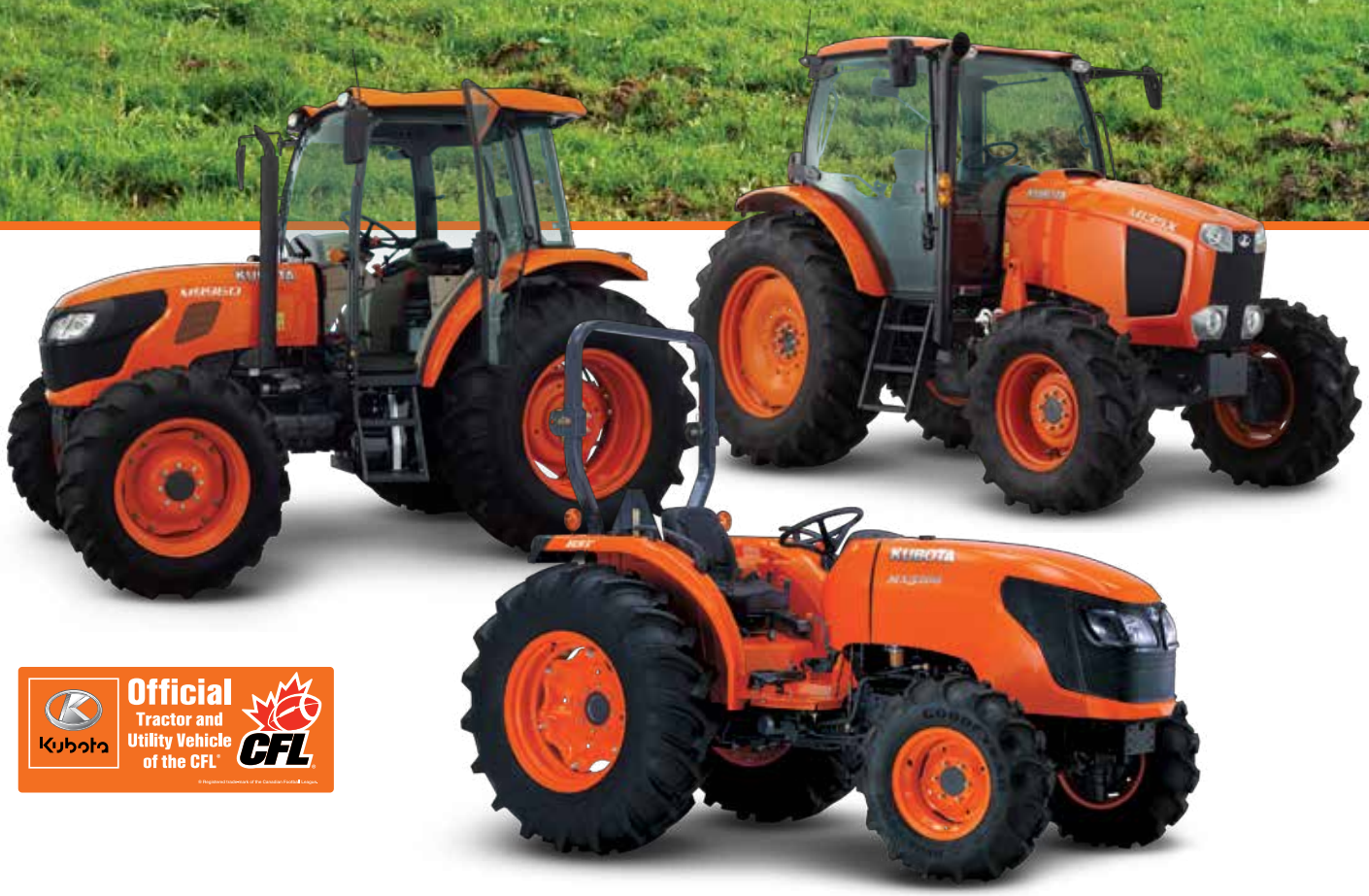

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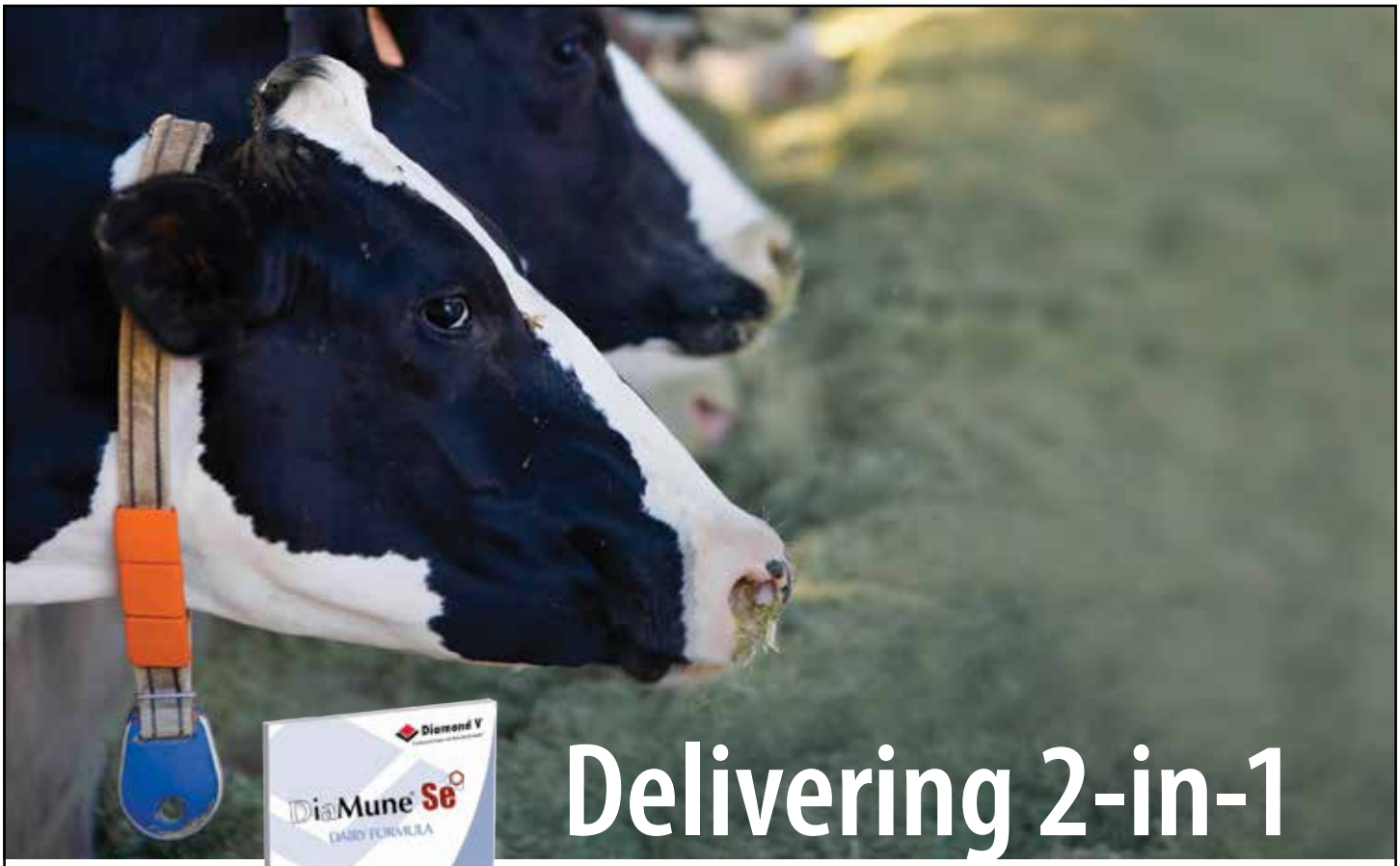
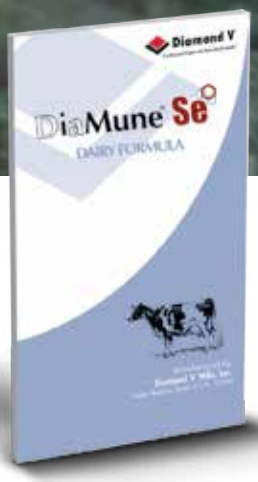
PRODUCTION

REGION	HERDS	305 MILK	305 FAT	305 PROTEIN	BCA COMP	BCA MILK	BCA FAT	BCA PROTEIN	2010	2011	2012
BRITISH COLUMBIA	315	9,894	374	317	223.4	224	223	223	222.3	223.9	222.3
AGASSIZ	18	9,949	366	313	218.0	219	218	217	219.7	218.1	217.6
CENTRAL B.C.	10	8,476	325	271	188.3	187	190	187	190.5	189.5	186.3
CHILLIWACK	64	10,275	383	327	231.3	233	230	231	228.1	230.2	230.6
COURTENAY-COMOX	9	9,305	364	299	212.5	209	218	211	210.6	208.1	204.0
COWICHAN	23	10,042	385	320	224.9	223	229	223	221.5	219.8	221.6
DELTA-RICHMOND	13	10,066	373	324	223.1	222	222	225	219.8	226.2	220.5
DEWDNEY-DEROCHE	26	10,057	383	323	231.7	234	230	232	227.3	233.9	230.0
KAMLOOPS-OKANAGAN	56	9,773	376	316	220.8	218	223	221	222.1	223.3	222.6
KOOTENAY	6	8,823	335	279	197.0	199	197	195	225.6	218.1	219.1
MATSQUI	22	9,755	362	312	217.5	218	217	218	220.3	216.6	212.7
PITT MEADOWS-MAPLE RIDGE	8	9,840	387	323	236.3	239	232	238	234.2	233.6	229.8
SUMAS	36	10,092	377	320	226.9	228	226	226	222.2	228.6	226.0
SURREY-LANGLEY	24	9,641	368	313	223.4	225	221	225	222.2	223.1	222.0
ALBERTA	454	9,679	367	309	217.0	216	219	216	215.0	214.8	216.0
CALGARY	54	9,714	370	312	219.8	218	222	219	214.8	213.6	218.3
EDMONTON	103	9,302	354	299	208.4	207	210	208	208.4	208.6	207.7
LETHBRIDGE / BROOKS	124	9,943	375	316	221.9	221	224	221	220.0	219.4	222.9
PEACE RIVER	4	9,027	329	290	199.8	201	197	202	202.2	211.3	209.6
RED DEER	156	9,767	370	311	218.2	217	221	217	216.2	216.3	215.5
VERMILION	13	9,135	352	295	216.3	217	216	216	211.2	208.3	212.3
SASKATCHEWAN	104	9,715	366	314	217.1	215	218	218	213.4	212.3	213.5
CANORA	5	8,603	315	281	187.5	186	184	192	183.4	189.9	188.9
PRINCE ALBERT/MELFORT	6	9,240	345	302	208.5	206	207	212	205.6	188.9	206.2
REGINA	15	10,276	376	330	223.2	224	221	226	221.6	218.6	221.5
SASKATOON	14	9,514	368	310	218.1	216	219	219	216.0	214.0	210.9
SASKATOON EAST	24	9,959	378	319	223.0	221	226	222	211.8	214.4	219.5
SASKATOON WEST	12	9,560	375	313	217.3	211	223	217	217.7	214.2	214.3
SWIFT CURRENT	22	9,711	365	314	218.5	216	219	220	214.1	213.1	213.9
WEYBURN	6	9,525	340	304	203.7	207	198	207	218.5	221.1	205.5
MANITOBA	206	9,437	354	301	209.4	210	210	209	204.9	200.7	202.4
CENTRAL	62	9,697	357	307	212.2	213	211	212	210.1	207.9	207.8
EASTERN	95	9,280	350	296	206.8	207	208	206	201.5	196.4	199.2
INTERLAKE	33	9,536	364	305	211.7	211	214	210	204.6	202.1	203.6
NORTH WEST	3	8,687	314	283	183.4	183	179	188	186.9	183.4	181.1
SOUTH WEST	13	9,264	349	302	214.5	218	209	217	213.0	202.7	202.9





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REGIONAL STATISTICS (GENERATED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR)

ENROLLMENT

	BRITISH COLUMBIA	ALBERTA	SASKATCHEWAN	MANITOBA	ALL WESTERN PROVINCES 2010	2011	2012	**2013**
DHI Herds	315	454	104	206	1,137	1,116	1,103	**1,079**
Percent Publishable	80%	59%	65%	70%	70%	69%	69%	**68%**
Percent Management	20%	41%	35%	30%	30%	31%	31%	**32%**
DHI Cows	46,990	61,180	17,457	28,218	147,000	153,351	158,281	**153,845**
Percent Publishable	74%	63%	73%	68%	72%	70%	69%	**68%**
Percent Management	26%	37%	27%	32%	28%	30%	31%	**32%**
Average Herd Size	149	135	168	137	129	137	144	**143**

PRODUCTION TRENDS (305 DAYS)

	BRITISH COLUMBIA			ALBERTA			SASKATCHEWAN			MANITOBA		
	M (KG)	F (KG)	P (KG)	M (KG)	F (KG)	P (KG)	M (KG)	F (KG)	P (KG)	M (KG)	F (KG)	P (KG)
2013	**9,894**	**374**	**317**	**9,679**	**367**	**309**	**9,715**	**366**	**314**	**9,437**	**354**	**301**
2012	9,869	372	315	9,666	364	308	9,624	359	309	9,170	342	293
2011	10,009	375	320	9,676	362	308	9,682	357	308	9,162	338	291
2010	10,017	371	320	9,844	359	312	9,905	357	314	9,413	348	298

PRODUCTION TRENDS (COMPLETE LACTATION)

BRITISH COLUMBIA

YEAR		M KG	F KG	P KG	AVG DIM
2013	**All**	**9,875**	**373**	**318**	**304**
	Publishable	**10,118**	**384**	**325**	**305**
	Management	**9,501**	**357**	**306**	**303**
2012	All	10110	382	325	313
	Publishable	10283	389	331	313
	Management	9801	369	315	313

ALBERTA

YEAR		M KG	F KG	P KG	AVG DIM
2013	**All**	**9,539**	**366**	**307**	**294**
	Publishable	**9,857**	**376**	**317**	**296**
	Management	**9,126**	**352**	**294**	**293**
2012	All	9767	372	314	307
	Publishable	10148	386	326	308
	Management	9308	356	300	305

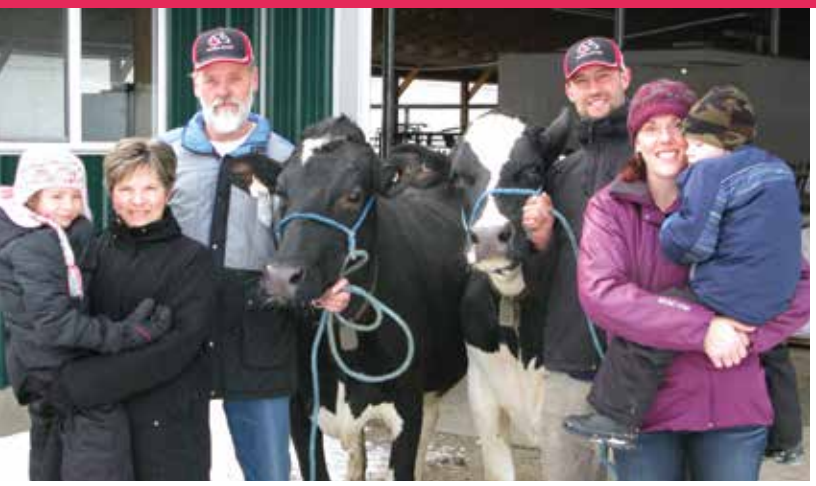
SASKATCHEWAN

YEAR		M KG	F KG	P KG	AVG DIM
2013	**All**	**10,032**	**384**	**327**	**311**
	Publishable	**10,145**	**392**	**330**	**309**
	Management	**9,862**	**373**	**322**	**313**
2012	All	10114	383	328	318
	Publishable	10247	390	331	315
	Management	9925	375	325	323

MANITOBA

YEAR		M KG	F KG	P KG	AVG DIM
2013	**All**	**9,480**	**360**	**304**	**305**
	Publishable	**9,799**	**369**	**314**	**308**
	Management	**9,041**	**346**	**290**	**302**
2012	All	9413	354	304	314
	Publishable	9763	368	315	316
	Management	8923	335	288	311

ROMYN HILL FARM LTD, SORRENTO, BRITISH COLUMBIA



A new barn and robotic milker have made a huge difference at Romyn Hill Farm Ltd., allowing them to maintain a great herd Somatic Cell Count score of 68,000 and lifting them to first in BC and top across the CanWest provinces for 2013 Herd Management Score.

Milk production has increased by 30 to 35 per cent, so Brad Romyn has reduced his milking herd from about 45 to 33 cows to stay within his quota. The herd is producing an average of 1.75 kilograms of butterfat per day.

To manage for this, Brad has increased his voluntary wait period to 120 days to allow for ideal conception rates and better cow conditioning. This longer wait period has allowed for more ideal dry off conditions due to the high persistency of the herd.

The cows average four times milking per day. Brad appreciates the freedom and flexibility to do other chores, such as managing cow comfort and rations as well focusing on and improving the breeding program.

Brad credits the conductivity tests the robotic milker performs as a new tool for maintaining already low SCCs. A reading for one quarter that is out of balance with the other three is a signal to take action. "But I always check my DHI SCC scores as they are more reliable."

He credits his veterinarian, Dr. Jay Thurgood, nutritionist Randy Kallis (Sure Crop Feeds Ltd.), and his father Adrian for being valuable team members.

"I'm a pretty competitive, aggressive kind of guy," says Brad, and that shows in his approach to his herd management and achieving goals. "I'm bold about trying new ideas and technology," he says.

His father, Adrian, from whom he bought the farm in 2007, and a part-time employee help with chores, such as feeding calves and maintaining the robot when Brad is absent.

Brad's wife, Jodi, keeps the books after she finishes working almost full-time as a manager for the Invasive Species Council of BC.

They have a five-year-old daughter, Paige, and three-year-old son, Grady "and I hope some day they will take over the farm," says Brad.

BRITISH COLUMBIA HERD MANAGEMENT SCORE

RANK	FARM NAME	HERD OWNER	CITY	TOTAL SCORE	HERD SIZE	BREED	REGION
1	Romyn Hill Farm Ltd	Brad & Jodi Romyn	Sorrento	991	44	HO	Kamloops-Okanagan
2	B & L Farms Ltd	Matt Dykshoorn	Abbotsford	942	48	HO	Sumas
3	Milky Way Dairy	Frank & Debbie Les	Chilliwack	895	73	HO	Chilliwack
4	Tonesa Holsteins Ltd	Tony De Groot	Chilliwack	892	129	HO	Chilliwack
5	Ja San Farms Ltd	Ken Kooyman	Chilliwack	890	84	HO	Chilliwack
6	Tekoa Dairy Inc	Harvey Haan	Chilliwack	887	244	HO	Chilliwack
7	Country Charm Farms Ltd	Huizing Bros.	Matsqui	885	228	HO	Matsqui
8	Pjv Farms Ltd	Peter Vink	Chilliwack	873	113	HO	Chilliwack
9	Aldor Acres Dairy Centre	Brian & Erin Anderson	Langley	856	46	HO	Surrey-Langley
10	Sunnyhome Farms Ltd	Richard Carlson	Salmon Arm	854	104	HO	Kamloops-Okanagan
11	Abbyview Dairies Ltd	Theo Van Der Kooi	Rosedale	852	140	HO	Sumas
12	Abbeyview Dairies Ltd #2	Theo Van Der Kooi	Rosedale	849	253	HO	Chilliwack
13	Vallevue Holsteins Ltd		Chilliwack	848	146	HO	Chilliwack
14	Springbank Holsteins Ltd		Chilliwack	847	128	HO	Chilliwack
15	Blue Diamond Farm	Harvey Wikkerink	Duncan	845	101	HO	Cowichan
16	Quo Vadis Dairy Farm	Bruce Kraakman	Deroche	843	163	HO	Dewdney-Deroche
17	Neveridle Farms	Arthur Keulen	Delta	843	150	HO	Delta-Richmond
18	Jennifer Veldhuisen		Grindrod	842	45	HO	Kamloops-Okanagan
19	Lloydshaven Holsteins Ltd	Lloyd Onnes & Family	Courtenay	836	92	HO	Courtenay-Comox
20	Van Gard Farms Ltd	Jim Van Garderen	Chilliwack	834	70	HO	Chilliwack

BRANDO HOLSTEINS, LACOMBE, ALBERTA

Wim and Sylvia Schakel started farming in 1985 in British Columbia after buying quota and renting a farm where they could tend a herd of 30 cows.

After five years they had done well enough to rent another place and expand to 60 cows. Eleven years later they moved near Lacombe, Alberta, where they now have about 600 head, 290 of them milking cows.

In 2013, Brando Holsteins ranked third for Herd Management Score in Alberta.

The cows are in a free-stall barn and the calves are in individual pens in a new calf barn. The milking cows are in three groups, one for the younger and smaller ones, a second for mature milking cows and a third for fresh cows. Close-up cows are housed separately for the three weeks before calving.

The Schakel's consult their CanWest DHI records for individual Somatic Cell Counts, milk production, butterfat and protein and they cull the herd hard because there are plenty of promising replacement heifers coming along.

"We're not scared to cull cows, even some good-looking ones", says Wim

Individual component records also play a crucial part in their breeding program. They take temperature of their cows for a couple of days after freshening to stay on top of any issues and have tested the herd of Johne's.

Their son Brad, who is 25, joined the farm four years ago after spending time on dairy farms in New Zealand. Sylvia feeds the calves and does most of the book-keeping. Russ Simm is their full-time employee and they also have a few part-timers.

Consistent results at Brando Holsteins have been achieved with the help of some of the best professional support in the industry. They feel privileged to be dairy farming in Canada and thank God for His blessings.

ALBERTA HERD MANAGEMENT SCORE

RANK & FARM NAME		HERD OWNER	CITY	TOTAL SCORE	HERD SIZE	BREED	REGION
1	Deerfield Colony	Andy Waldner	Magrath	977	108	HO	Lethbridge/Brooks
2	Prairiehome Colony Farming Co	Jonathan Waldner	Wrenthem	974	111	HO	Lethbridge/Brooks
3	Brando Holsteins Inc	Wim, Sylvia & Brad Schakel	Lacombe	944	277	HO	Red Deer
4	Roseglen Farming Co. Ltd	Rueben Entz	Hilda	938	90	HO	Lethbridge/Brooks
5	Poly-C Farms	Cor & Cathy Haagsma	Ponoka	933	280	HO	Red Deer
6	Sylvanside Dairy Ltd	Sipke & Margreet Dijkstra	Ponoka	932	154	HO	Red Deer
7	Nifera Holsteins		Nobleford	916	88	HO	Lethbridge/Brooks
8	Lathom Colony	Mike Hofer	Bassano	914	123	HO	Calgary
9	Richards Farms Ltd	William Richards	Red Deer	913	138	HO	Red Deer
10	Mars Dairy	Gert & Sonja Schrijver	Stettler	912	295	HO	Red Deer
11	Aspenridge Farms Ltd	Dick & Steve Tenhove	Blackfalds	911	49	HO	Red Deer
12	H & W Rommens Farms	H & W Rommens	Duchess	897	202	HO	Lethbridge/Brooks
13	Earnewald Holsteins	Dejong Brothers	Lacombe	879	139	HO	Red Deer
14	Philipsen Farm Ltd	Arie & Dineke Philipsen	Lacombe	875	306	HO	Red Deer
15	Debruyn Cattle Co. Ltd	John Debruyn	Rocky Mtn House	875	115	HO	Red Deer
16	New Rockport Colony	Steven Wipf	New Dayton	871	116	HO	Lethbridge/Brooks
17	Brad Bredenhof		Calmar	870	62	HO	Edmonton
18	Three Hills Colony	Dairy Barn	Three Hills	867	144	HO	Calgary
19	Ten Brummelhuis Dairy	A & W Ten Brummelhuis	Olds	867	105	HO	Calgary
20	Wetoka Farms Ltd	Michael & Marla Roth	Millet	867	67	HO	Red Deer

DIAMOND HOLSTEINS LTD, OSLER, SASKATCHEWAN

Huizing brothers Howard, Phil and Chris purchased an existing 220 cow dairy near Osler SK and established Diamond Holsteins Ltd in May of 2008. Chris and his wife, Diana, and their family remain on the home farm near Abbotsford BC where the trio farmed together for 20+ years.

Howard and Phil took up the challenge of improving both the facilities and the cattle at the Osler farm in the process nabbing the provinces second highest Herd Management Score in 2013.

"The herd looks better today," says Howard. A major improvement came from regular hoof trimming, recently deciding to trim each hoof three times a year.

When it comes to operating procedures, their goal is concentric consistency, centered on excellence and efficiency. Cow comfort, nutrition, and reproduction are all king on this farm.

The DHI data "is a great tool for us in achieving our goals", says Howard.

They had the entire herd milk tested for Johne's last year and are testing all fresh cows.

Hard work and diligence have definitely paid off as milk production jumped by 33%.

In 2010 they purchased another herd of 120 cows, and an addition was then built on to the barn. Recently another addition for heifers and dry cows was completed. With the whole barn now well equipped and the entire herd under one roof, Diamond Holsteins is set to go to the next level.

Howard met his wife Sarah when she applied for a milking position. They now have three children, four, two and six months old.

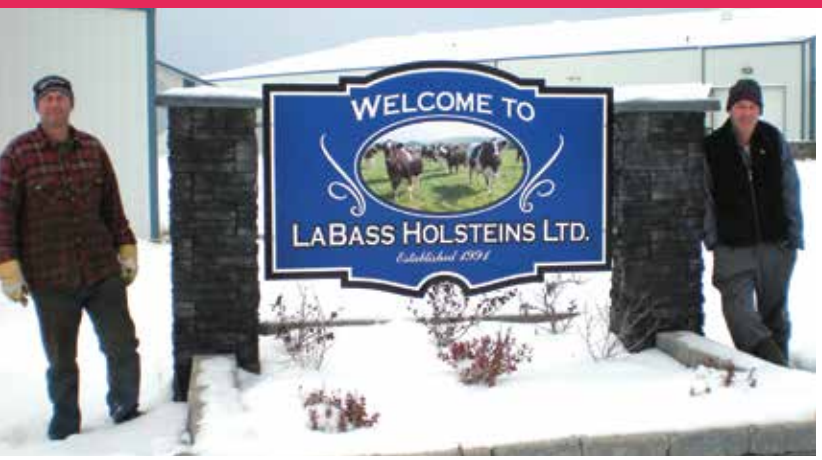
Currently Phil and his wife Karen and youngest daughter Rebecca spend summers in SK and winter in BC. Phil commutes between the two provinces for the winter months.

"We feel very blessed by God to be doing what we love," says Phil.

SASKATCHEWAN HERD MANAGEMENT SCORE

RANK & FARM NAME		HERD OWNER	CITY	TOTAL SCORE	HERD SIZE	BREED	REGION
1	Dept. Animal & Poultry Sci.		Saskatoon	884	93	HO	Saskatoon East
2	Diamond Holsteins	Phil & Howard Huizing	Osler	881	289	HO	Saskatoon
3	Fox Valley Farming Co. Ltd	Jake Entz	Fox Valley	870	82	HO	Swift Current
4	Prairie Diamond Farm	Harley Strudwick	Balgonie	870	71	HO	Regina
5	Dinsmore Colony	David Waldner	Dinsmore	869	94	HO	Saskatoon West
6	Sierra Colony	Thomas Kleinsasser	Shaunavon	868	81	HO	Swift Current
7	Elkrest Farms	Brad Jason Trevor Kornelius	Osler	858	711	HO	Saskatoon East
8	Quill Lake Colony	Robert Tschetter	Quill Lake	857	120	HO	Saskatoon
9	Rynview Holsteins	Michael Wesselingh	Saskatoon	849	64	HO	Saskatoon East
10	Alley Holsteins	Albert Leyenhorst	Dalmeny	848	185	HO	Saskatoon East
11	Smiley Hutterite Colony	Leonard Kleinsasser	Smiley	825	131	HO	Saskatoon West
12	Cypress Colony	Darrell Entz	Maple Creek	823	92	HO	Swift Current
13	Morsan Milkstream Ltd	Greg Thalen	Ponoka	821	1028	HO	Saskatoon
14	Foth Ventures Ltd	Melvin Foth	Hague	821	445	HO	Saskatoon East
15	Delaine Holsteins	Elaine Donald	Saskatoon	813	135	HO	Saskatoon East
16	Marfay Farms Ltd	Merlis & Mark Wiebe	Osler	792	257	HO	Saskatoon East
17	Vandenbrink Dairy Farms	Henk Van Den Brink	Saskatoon	786	152	HO	Saskatoon West
18	A C Dairy	Josh Entz	Abbey	781	99	HO	Swift Current
19	Abbyview Farms	Ben Vanderkooi	Saskatoon	780	453	HO	Saskatoon East
20	Kessel Family Farm	Raymond Kessel	Balgonie	780	160	HO	Regina

LABASS HOLSTEINS LTD, LA BROQUERIE, MANITOBA



Canada's vast expanses of farmland and potential to prosper enthused Jan and Kees Bassa while they were working on a dairy farm in Manitoba, so they persuaded their parents to move from the Netherlands to La Broquerie in 1991.

Jan and Kees bought that farm in 1993 and have since grown it into a powerhouse of three modern barns, a 50-cow rotary milking parlour, space for 600 milking cows (they now have 490) and a multitude of awards.

Their LaBass Holsteins Ltd. ranked second for Herd Management Score in Manitoba last year and won the Dairy Farmers of Manitoba Highest Milk Value award. In 2010, Jan and his wife, Tracy, were Manitoba's Outstanding Young Farmers.

Jan is now a director on the Dairy Farmers of Manitoba milk marketing board, so entrusts the business more than ever to the team of 13 employees. He says it's the team approach to the farm that has achieved good results.

The first decades in Manitoba involved building herd size, three barns for heifers, calves and the milking herd and improving milk production. "Now the focus is on getting better," Jan says, including better Somatic Cell Counts, healthier cattle and shorter calving intervals.

CanWest DHI is an important management tool in reaching for those goals, especially SCCs for individual cows to identify candidates for culling. He makes good use of Dairy Comp Herd Management software.

He credits advice from nutritionist Phil Bourke of DairySmart for improving herd health over the past three years. Cow comfort became an even higher priority, including details such as clipping those coming in from the cold so they perspire less and trimming hooves of all first-lactation heifers before they calve.

Jan and Tracy have four children, Derrick, 15, Nick, 14, Josh, 8, and Melissa, 6, and the older boys are already showing calves in 4-H competitions and helping with chores. Kees, who is single, remains a working partner in the business.

MANITOBA HERD MANAGEMENT SCORE

RANK & FARM NAME		HERD OWNER	CITY	TOTAL SCORE	HERD SIZE	BREED	REGION
1	Mageo Pouteau Farms Ltd	Chris & Carla Pouteau	Mariapolis	913	68	HO	Central
2	Labass Holsteins Ltd	Jan & Tracy Bassa	La Broquerie	858	489	HO	Eastern
3	Columbine Holsteins	Jacob & Annita Benthem	Elm Creek	842	91	HO	Central
4	Malarky Holsteins M079	Mark Donohoe	Minnedosa	841	58	HO	South West
5	Friecrest Holsteins	Ed & Kathy Friesen	Kleefeld	835	87	HO	Eastern
6	Rocky Ridge Dairy D108	Hotze & Pietje Woudstra	Grunthal	834	154	HO	Eastern
7	C & D Farms C069	Cornie Penner	Altona	832	69	HO	Central
8	Holmestead Dairy	Russ Holme	Anola	826	52	HO	Eastern
9	Vandel Holsteins	L Vandenbossche	Bruxelles	809	75	HO	Central
10	Boonstra Farms Ltd	Brian & Rob Boonstra	Marquette	796	586	HO	Interlake
11	Lang Farms Ltd	Arnold & Kim Lange	Dufresne	794	69	HO	Eastern
12	Noreydo Holsteins R048	Norbert & Kevin & Ryan Rey	St Claude	783	80	HO	Central
13	Muller Farms	Richard Muller	Notre Dame	780	31	HO	Central
14	Rosh Holsteins	Roger & Sherry Poirier	Beausejour	778	55	HO	Eastern
15	Liesveld Holsteins Inc	Peter & Astrid Dejong	La Broquerie	775	919	HO	Eastern
16	Robert Waldner	Blumengart Colony	Plum Coulee	771	28	HO	Central
17	Rosser Holsteins	Henry & Tony Holtmann	Rosser	758	500	HO	Interlake
18	Philippot Dairy Farms	Alain Philippot	St Claude	755	79	HO	Central
19	Alcorn Dairy	Werner & Lori Wiebe	Grunthal	741	74	HO	Eastern
20	Jeremy Dueck		Landmark	740	34	HO	Eastern

MANAGEMENT CENTRE BENCHMARKS All Western Canada DHI Herds based on 2012 Herd Averages

	BRITISH COLUMBIA				ALBERTA				SASKATCHEWAN				MANITOBA			
PERCENTILE	25th	50th	75th	90th	25th	50th	75th	90th	25th	50th	75th	90th	25th	50th	75th	90th
Number of Cows	74	109	168	276	84	116	158	246	94	126	192	305	58	83	135	246
Standard Milk (kgs)	31.2	34.3	36.6	38.9	31.8	34.5	36.6	38.6	31.5	34.2	37.3	39.9	29.8	33.3	35.9	37.5
Annual Milk Value ($)	6,501	7,157	7,724	8,208	6,218	6,935	7,548	8,065	6,117	6,893	7,499	8,149	5,581	6,480	7,226	7,823
Udder Health (Linear Score)	2.6	2.3	2.0	1.8	2.8	2.5	2.3	2.0	3.1	2.7	2.4	2.1	3.2	2.9	2.5	2.3
Age at 1st Calving (months)	27.4	26.0	25.0	24.2	27.3	25.9	24.8	24.1	27.9	26.2	25.0	24.2	28.6	27.0	25.6	24.5
Calving Interval (months)	14.4	13.8	13.3	13.0	14.2	13.6	13.1	12.8	14.8	13.9	13.3	13.0	15.0	13.9	13.3	12.9
% of herd in 3+ Lactation	29.4	33.9	39.3	44.4	29.8	34.2	39.7	43.6	30.1	35.6	39.8	43.2	29.2	35.6	40.8	46.3
Efficiency (% of herd in milk)	83.9	86.0	87.7	89.5	79.0	83.7	86.3	88.3	79.1	82.3	85.3	86.9	76.7	83.2	86.5	88.8
Turnover (% of herd removed)	49.8	42.9	36.0	27.9	49.2	41.5	33.9	27.9	50.3	41.0	30.7	25.0	49.7	42.4	34.5	23.6
Days Dry	79	69	62	56	90	75	66	58	97	83	68	58	105	83	67	60
Days to 1st Breeding	101	92	82	75	95	82	73	68	101	86	77	71	107	89	79	69

HOW PERCENTILES WORK: If all the herds (animals could be substituted for herds) were arranged in order from lowest to highest, the75th percentile would be the value of the herd that is better than 75% of all the other herds. The 99th percentile value is that which is better than 99% of all the other herds.

Dairy Farmers of Canada

Les Producteurs laitiers du Canada

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BRITISH COLUMBIA PUBLISHABLE HERD LISTINGS

FARM	HERD OWNER	CITY	AVG BCA	BCA M	BCA F	BCA P	RECORDS	M KG	F KG	P KG	BREED
Wisselview Farms	Wayne & Judy Wisselink	Pitt Meadows	294.7	295	290	299	94	13,058*	477	421	H
Malabar Farm	Norman Vander Wyk	Dewdney	287.3	296	278	288	98	13,189 *	459	408	H
Triwest Farms	Vic & Terry Triemstra	Chilliwack	282.3	286	283	278	100	12,774 *	469	396	H
Tonesa Holsteins Ltd	Tony De Groot	Chilliwack	280.3	287	280	274	100	12,840 *	465	391	H
Hammingview Farms	Yvonne Murdoch	Pitt Meadows	276.0	271	279	278	65	12,388	471	403	H
Garibaldi Jerseys	Dennis Hampton	Maple Ridge	275.7	295	249	283	58	9,065	417	330	J
Lindrian Farms	John Tamis	Surrey	275.0	276	275	274	54	11,592	456	373	H,G,J
H. A. Antonsen & Co. Ltd	Harvey Antonsen	Aldergrove	274.0	280	265	277	46	12,409 R	437	393	H
Romyn Hill Farm Ltd	Brad & Jodi Romyn	Sorrento	273.7	280	258	283	41	12,865 R	440	412	H
Frueh Farm Ltd	Steve Frueh	Duncan	271.3	271	269	274	79	12,972	480	416	H,J
Brooknook Farms	John Ricka & Sons	Chilliwack	270.3	273	262	276	120	12,141	431	391	H
Van Gard Farms Ltd	Jim Van Garderen	Chilliwack	267.7	275	254	274	51	12,116	415	385	H
Milky Way Dairy	Frank & Debbie Les	Chilliwack	265.7	262	277	258	60	11,586	454	363	H
Chilliwack Cattle Meadowgold	Jeff Kooyman	Chilliwack	264.0	261	271	260	135	11,524 *	445	365	H
B & L Farms Ltd	Matt Dykshoorn	Abbotsford	263.7	264	265	262	34	11,813	442	374	H
Lavender Farms Ltd	Gerrit Vaandrager	Abbotsford	262.7	274	252	262	140	12,302 R	420	375	H
Aldor Acres Dairy	Brian & Erin Anderson	Langley	262.7	259	266	263	36	10,225 R	438	348	H,J,B
Abbyview Dairies Ltd	Theo Van Der Kooi	Rosedale	262.3	267	260	260	122	11,600 *	418	360	H
West Coast Holsteins	Jeff Kooyman	Chilliwack	262.3	255	264	268	11	11,064	427	369	H
G & A Ferguson	G & A Ferguson	Enderby	262.0	268	253	265	76	9,220	399	318	J,H,A

In order for a herd to be included in the listing, 50% or more of the total records contributing to the herd's average must be Publishable. *Greater than 2X tests (All or Part). R: Robotic

ALBERTA PUBLISHABLE HERD LISTINGS

FARM	HERD OWNER	CITY	AVG BCA	BCA M	BCA F	BCA P	RECORDS	M KG	F KG	P KG	BREED
Aspenridge Farms Ltd	Dick & Steve Tenhove	Blackfalds	277.0	276	282	273	36	12,680	479	398	H
Deerfield Colony	Andy Waldner	Magrath	276.0	259	311	258	95	11,616	517	367	H
Royal Hill Farm		Lacombe	273.7	270	286	265	174	12,019 *	473	376	H
Poly-C Farms	Cor & Cathy Haagsma	Ponoka	270.0	268	275	267	238	11,866 *	451	376	H
Mars Dairy	Gert & Sonja Schrijver	Stettler	270.0	262	285	263	235	12,013 *	486	382	H
Janna Dairy Ltd	John G. Hulsman	Ponoka	267.7	267	273	263	123	11,760 *	446	370	H
Lucky Hill Dairy		Lacombe	267.3	270	268	264	154	12,145 *	447	379	H
Northend Farm	Brodie & Brenda Cupples	Thorsby	267.3	265	262	275	9	7,074	285	240	M,G
Thornspyc Dairy	Wim Van De Brake	Lacombe	267.0	263	277	261	143	11,778 *	461	373	H
Nifera Holsteins		Nobleford	267.0	274	264	263	77	12,009	431	367	H
Rinsma Holsteins	Geert Rinsma	Olds	264.7	263	271	260	84	11,727 R	447	369	H
Sylvanside Dairy Ltd	Sipke & Margreet Dijkstra	Ponoka	263.3	260	274	256	128	11,751	458	368	H
Vanden Pol Dairy	Gys & Silia Vanden Pol	Coaldale	262.3	262	260	265	79	11,696 R	432	377	H
Prairiehome Colony Farming Co	Jonathan Waldner	Wrenthem	262.0	266	262	258	97	11,739	427	362	H
Roselane Holsteins	Wim Ruysch	Leduc County	261.3	270	256	258	49	11,877	427	366	H,B,J
Irvine Farms Ltd	Doug Wyllie	Vegreville	261.3	260	259	265	40	8,567	354	287	A
New Rockport Colony	Steven Wipf	New Dayton	260.3	255	270	256	69	11,243	442	361	H
Earnewald Holsteins	Dejong Brothers	Lacombe	257.7	251	273	249	118	10,861	439	344	H
Kamps Dairy Ltd	Albert Kamps	Lacombe	257.3	255	263	254	113	11,018	421	349	H
Will & Rob Rommens		Duchess	256.7	256	258	256	172	11,471	430	366	H

In order for a herd to be included in the listing, 50% or more of the total records contributing to the herd's average must be Publishable. *Greater than 2X tests (All or Part). R: Robotic

FARM	HERD OWNER	CITY	AVG BCA	BCA M	BCA F	BCA P	RECORDS	M KG	F KG	P KG	BREED
Rynview Holsteins	Michael Wesselingh	Saskatoon	281.3	287	283	274	49	12,875	472	392	H
Foth Ventures Ltd	Melvin Foth	Hague	280.3	279	284	278	337	12,686 *	478	402	H
Prairie Diamond Farm	Harley Strudwick	Balgonie	277.7	277	270	286	61	12,655	455	415	H
Abbyview Farms	Ben Vanderkooi	Saskatoon	270.7	255	291	266	246	11,337 *	483	379	H,B,J
Dept. Animal & Poultry Sci.		Saskatoon	264.0	262	265	265	79	11,307 *	425	365	H
Delaine Holsteins	Elaine Donald	Saskatoon	262.7	250	284	254	112	11,368	480	369	H
Robella Holsteins	Reg & Juliann Lindenbach	Balgonie	256.7	247	271	252	63	11,840	483	382	H
Elkrest Farms	Brad Jason Trevor Kornelius	Osler	255.0	256	257	252	602	11,522 *	429	362	H
Baumann Holsteins	Emanuel Baumann	Kipling	248.3	250	242	253	61	11,688	420	375	H
Morsan Milkstream Ltd	Greg Thalen	Ponoka	248.0	244	258	242	745	10,306 *	405	326	H,B
Broyhill Holsteins	Brian Lindenbach	Balgonie	247.3	241	256	245	89	10,916	427	352	H
Alley Holsteins	Albert Leyenhorst	Dalmeny	244.7	242	248	244	155	10,979	417	352	H
Marfay Farms Ltd	Merlis & Mark Wiebe	Osler	243.3	244	244	242	224	10,997 *	408	347	H
Dinsmore Colony	David Waldner	Dinsmore	242.3	238	246	243	87	10,570	403	343	H
Star City Colony	Ruben Tschetter	Star City	240.7	236	246	240	172	10,367	400	335	H
Pennant Colony	Dan Wipf	Pennant	240.7	240	240	242	82	10,850	401	348	H
Eatonia Farming Company Ltd	Dave Mandel	Eatonia	240.3	239	231	251	160	10,819	389	362	H
Smiley Hutterite Colony	Leonard Kleinsasser	Smiley	240.0	232	253	235	112	10,262	416	332	H
Kessel Family Farm	Raymond Kessel	Balgonie	239.7	246	234	239	130	11,211	395	346	H
Milden Colony Dairy	Steven Mandel	Milden	238.3	235	242	238	72	10,493	401	339	H

In order for a herd to be included in the listing, 50% or more of the total records contributing to the herd's average must be Publishable. *Greater than 2X tests (All or Part)

MANITOBA PUBLISHABLE HERD LISTINGS

FARM	HERD OWNER	CITY	AVG BCA	BCA M	BCA F	BCA P	RECORDS	M KG	F KG	P KG	BREED
Current Holsteins	Darren & Allison Hueging	Woodlands	300.7	302	305	295	48	13,812	516	430	H
Aggies Holsteins	Hermann & Audrey Hueging	Woodlands	299.7	304	294	301	102	14,007	501	441	H
Friecrest Holsteins	Ed & Kathy Friesen	Kleefeld	274.7	273	288	263	74	12,359	482	379	H
Malarky Holsteins	Mark Donohoe	Minnedosa	271.0	274	273	266	42	12,988	478	399	H
Alcorn Dairy	Werner & Lori Wiebe	Grunthal	270.7	260	296	256	60	11,446	485	361	H
Lifewind Holsteins	Christophe Roulin	Stonewall	268.3	261	279	265	74	12,336 *	487	397	H
Labass Holsteins Ltd	Jan & Tracy Bassa	La Broquerie	265.0	265	270	260	363	11,733 *	445	366	H
Vandel Holsteins	L Vandenbossche	Bruxelles	263.0	266	251	272	57	11,924	418	388	H
James Valley Colony	Tim Wurtz	Elie	260.0	261	266	253	65	12,435 *	471	383	H
Donfield Farms Ltd	Garry Donohoe	Brandon	257.7	257	257	259	69	12,176	451	390	H
Robert Waldner	Blumengart Colony	Plum Coulee	250.7	243	266	243	23	11,007	448	350	H
Columbine Holsteins	Jacob & Annita Benthem	Elm Creek	250.0	250	246	254	76	11,352	415	368	H
Swiss Dream Farm		Wawanesa	249.3	249	259	240	40	10,014	420	338	B
Mageo Pouteau Farms Ltd	Chris & Carla Pouteau	Mariapolis	247.3	253	239	250	52	11,501	402	360	H
Bannister's Dairy	John Andy Dave Bannister	Lockport	247.0	250	239	252	103	11,387	405	366	H
Sunflo Dairy	Morley & Kathleen Sundell	Holland	245.7	256	241	240	47	11,662	408	348	H
Rosser Holsteins	Henry & Tony Holtmann	Rosser	244.3	245	251	237	403	10,856 *	414	334	H,J
Olfert Dairy Inc	Milton Olfert	Winkler	244.3	257	232	244	72	11,706 *	391	355	H
Van Dorp Dairy	Bill & Tanja Van Dorp	Petersfield	242.0	240	243	243	82	10,026	391	329	H,J,A
Pouteau Holsteins Ltd	Darcy, Randy & Ed Pouteau	Swan Lake	241.7	243	241	241	112	10,735	395	339	H

In order for a herd to be included in the listing, 50% or more of the total records contributing to the herd's average must be Publishable. *Greater than 2X tests (All or Part)

	HERD SIZE				HOUSING		FREQUENCY		
	0-49	50-99	100-199	200+	TIE-STALL	FREE STALL	2×	3×	ROBOTIC
BRITISH COLUMBIA									
Number of Herds	33	101	119	62	12	299	263	29	23
% of Herds	10.5	32.1	37.8	19.7	3.8	94.9	83.5	9.2	7.3
% of Cows	2.5	16.5	34.5	46.5	1.3	96.9	74.1	20.4	5.5
Average Herd Size	35.1	76.9	136.4	352.2	50.3	152.3	132.4	330.9	111.7
Average 305 Milk Production	9,414	9,450	10,199	10,290	9,520	9,904	9,701	11,195	10,462
Average 305 Fat Production	358	363	385	380	367	374	369	417	377
Average 305 Protein Production	305	304	326	327	311	317	312	353	331
BCA Milk	218	215	229	231	227	223	220	252	234
BCA Fat	214	215	230	228	217	223	220	251	225
BCA Protein	219	214	229	229	225	223	220	249	232
Avg SCC	190	174	169	204	327	174	176	193	207
ALBERTA									
Number of Herds	30	145	212	67	45	403	397	28	29
% of Herds	6.6	31.9	46.7	14.8	9.9	88.8	87.4	6.2	6.4
% of Cows	1.9	18.2	47.6	32.2	5.8	93.2	82	12.3	5.7
Average Herd Size	39.6	76.9	137.3	294.3	79.5	141.5	126.3	269.7	120.4
Average 305 Milk Production	8,749	9,633	9,787	9,851	9,332	9,734	9,559	10,723	10,304
Average 305 Fat Production	338	360	373	374	353	369	363	410	378
Average 305 Protein Production	287	307	312	314	300	311	306	339	329
BCA Milk	207	212	218	220	206	218	213	239	230
BCA Fat	207	213	223	224	208	221	217	246	227
BCA Protein	210	213	218	220	207	218	214	238	230
Avg SCC	211	215	208	234	225	211	212	219	237

	HERD SIZE				HOUSING		FREQUENCY		
	0-49	50-99	100-199	200+	TIE-STALL	FREE STALL	2×	3×	ROBOTIC
SASKATCHEWAN									
Number of Herds	4	30	44	26	14	88	86	13	5
% of Herds	3.8	28.8	42.3	25	13.5	84.6	82.7	12.5	4.8
% of Cows	0.8	14.1	34.7	50.4	6.4	91	69.4	26.9	3.7
Average Herd Size	34.5	81.8	137.7	338.7	79.4	180.5	140.9	361.3	129.2
Average 305 Milk Production	8,226	9,700	9,734	9,927	9,329	9,788	9,531	10,750	10,179
Average 305 Fat Production	292	360	372	376	352	369	359	411	368
Average 305 Protein Production	260	313	315	321	301	316	308	344	334
BCA Milk	176	219	213	221	210	216	211	239	223
BCA Fat	169	216	219	225	207	219	214	245	217
BCA Protein	175	221	217	224	210	220	214	240	230
Avg SCC	270	223	263	261	240	252	246	266	289
MANITOBA									
Number of Herds	31	91	57	27	78	127	166	15	25
% of Herds	15	44.2	27.7	13.1	37.9	61.7	80.6	7.3	12.1
% of Cows	4	23	27.2	45.8	20.9	78.8	69.2	20.4	10.4
Average Herd Size	36.3	71.3	134.6	479	75.6	175.2	117.7	383.9	117.1
Average 305 Milk Production	9,014	9,485	9,507	9,613	9,461	9,454	9,331	10,431	9,542
Average 305 Fat Production	336	356	360	357	358	353	352	387	345
Average 305 Protein Production	288	301	304	305	302	301	298	327	302
BCA Milk	199	212	209	215	211	209	208	230	211
BCA Fat	198	210	212	215	211	209	208	230	205
BCA Protein	199	210	210	214	210	208	207	226	209
Avg SCC	260	250	276	297	264	266	258	288	296

DISPOSAL REASONS

REASON	BRITISH COLUMBIA		ALBERTA		SASKATCHEWAN		MANITOBA	
Reproductive	3,708	27%	4,622	28%	731	21%	1,891	25%
Mastitis and/or high SCC	2,370	18%	2,708	16%	600	17%	1,680	22%
Low milk production	1,903	14%	2,485	15%	378	11%	1,073	14%
Feet & leg problems	1,868	14%	1,950	12%	395	11%	669	9%
Udder breakdown	1,092	8%	1,931	11%	371	11%	775	10%
Sickness	999	7%	1,371	8%	414	12%	694	9%
Injury/Accident	864	6%	691	4%	178	5%	386	5%
Old age	416	3%	615	4%	116	3%	228	3%
Exported	108	1%	159	1%	289	8%	50	1%
Bad temperament	162	1%	262	2%	26	1%	149	2%

HERD DISTRIBUTION ALL PROVINCES

COWS	HERDS
0-9	3
10-19	4
20-29	13
30-39	27
40-49	51
50-59	62
60-69	67
70-79	80
80-89	72
90-99	86
100-109	77
110-119	62
120-129	54
130-139	66
140-149	43
150-159	38
160-169	33
170-179	23
180-189	18
190-199	18
200+	182

The success of Canadian genetics sales will rely on improved health status

Michael Hall, Executive Director, CLGA

CanWest DHI has been a leader in identifying value-added services. This is very apparent when one looks at the growing number of cow health related milk tests that are available. These milk health tests will only grow in importance as the Canadian dairy industry evolves to meet tomorrow's challenges. They will also play a key role for acquiring and maintaining access to export markets.

Canada has a solid reputation for excellent animal husbandry practices and quality genetic breeding stock. In order to capitalize on this reputation and increase access to export markets dairy producers need simple animal health programs to lower the over-all incidence of many production limiting diseases. Outbreaks of Anaplasmosis and Bluetongue have had an immediate effect on Canada's dairy genetic exports. It has resulted in the closing of some export markets and requiring countless hours of work to re-negotiate access to others. But even with non-reportable diseases, it takes an integrated approach by all producers to manage the risks and lower the incidence.

There has been excellent work across Canada raising awareness and understanding of Johne's and incorporating best management practices at the farm level to control and lower the prevalence of the disease. But with all the conversation about Johne's, there has been another production limiting disease that has been left on the side. Enzootic Bovine Leukosis is becoming a serious issue in the National herd. Some statistics estimate that roughly 35% of the milking cow population is positive. The current accredited program (CHAH) for the control of Leukosis has less than 25 herds participating from across Canada. It is an expensive program that relies on outdated testing methods, and with current export market realities, it is very hard to demonstrate payback.

Having a national program that so few farms participate in has stopped much of the discussion around Leukosis and its impact. It has also allowed the disease to gain a stronger foothold in the national herd. Canada needs to rethink its approach to Leukosis and the issues surrounding its control. There is no doubt that Leukosis can be controlled and the overall prevalence lowered. We must remember that our new trading partner, Europe, is largely Leukosis free. Healthy milk from healthy cows, the Canadian consumer expects it and all future export market access will revolve around proving it.

Canadian dairymen have done an amazing job with animal ID, herd book and milk recording participation. The breed improvement organizations have, in turn, done a great job to give dairymen the tools they need to be successful.

It is time for the Canadian dairy industry to re-think the way we are approaching bovine Leukosis. The CHAH program for Leukosis needs to be completely overhauled to be an inclusive program that will benefit all participating dairymen. It should also lower the incidence of Leukosis by focusing on dairy herd management utilizing new and cost effective testing methods. This in turn will allow Canadian genetics increased access to foreign markets that are increasingly requiring higher standards of disease control.

In the end, not just those in the export business will benefit, but all dairy producers.

The Canadian Livestock Genetics Association is a nationwide, not-for-profit trade association representing the market access and animal health interests of those involved in the sale, service and promotion of livestock genetics both domestically and internationally.