2015 WESTERN PROGRESS REPORT





WESTERN PROGRESS REPORT

Industry Outlook	
Statistics	10
Producer Profiles	
Looking Forward	24

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Jefo	
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Tru-Test Inc	
Zoetis	9
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General Manager's Comments

e are pleased to present this year's DHI Western Progress Report. We have traditionally taken the opportunity each year to recognize the top herds in each of the four provinces. This year we have gone a step further with the introduction of a new National Herd Management Score ranking. In 2015, Rueben Entz of Roseglen Farming Co. Ltd. from Hilda, Alberta was the top national herd within the four western provinces with a score of 949. Congratulations to them on their outstanding efforts.

Inside you will find listings of the top herds in each of the four provinces, recognizing the outstanding herd managers for 2015. As well, you will find individual profiles of some of the top herd managers in the industry.

In addition to the top BCA herds, we also include a list of the top Management Scores recognizing outstanding dairy herd managers. As noted above, Rueben Entz of Roseglen Farming Co. Ltd. was the top herd from the four provinces. Leading the other provinces were Chris and Joel Huizing of Country Charm Farms Ltd., in Matsqui, British Columbia with a score of 935; Sierra Colony of Shaunavon, Saskatchewan with a score of 902; and Chris and Carla Pouteau of Mageo Pouteau Farms Ltd. from Mariapolis, Manitoba with a management score of 864.

We also recognize other aspects of herd management excellence with our listing of the lowest SCC herds in the four western provinces reflecting their outstanding udder health management skills and practices. Congratulations to Tom DeGroot in Rosedale, British Columbia who lead the west with an average SCC of 37,000 cells/ml. Leaders in the other provinces included Earnewald Holsteins-Dejong Bros. Ltd. in Lacombe, Alberta; Doug Daum of Daum Farms in Dalmeny, Saskatchewan; and Chris and Carla Pouteau of Mageo Pouteau Farms Ltd., Manitoba.

Special effort and attention to detail is necessary to attain low SCC scores and reach the top position — congratulations to each of the provincial leaders.

Inside the Progress Report you will find profiles of some of the best dairy producers in the industry as well as the usual listings of the top BCA herds and industry statistics.

On page 20, you will find a section on demographics which includes comparison statistics for the various herd sizes and housing systems, including a separate breakdown for robotic herds.

Our report also includes articles by industry specialists highlighting current issues such as the hidden cost of sub-clinical ketosis, the threat of Leukosis, and details about the forthcoming animal traceability reporting requirements.

In conclusion, I wish to thank 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

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Leukosis—it's time to take action!

Alessa Kuzewski, DVM, PhD candidate, University of Calgary Veterinary Medicine

ave you ever had a clinical case of Leukosis on your farm? Probably. With approximately 90% of Canadian dairy farms being infected you can count yourself lucky if you haven't. Of 66,257 milk samples tested by CanWest DHI between 2007 and 2015, 33% were test-positive.

Leukosis, also known as Enzootic Bovine Leukemia, is caused by a virus called Bovine Leukemia Virus (BLV). Once an animal is infected by the virus, it will be infected for life. BLV infects white blood cells and causes cancer in about 5% of infected animals. What many people aren't aware of are the other, less apparent, but at least as important effects of the infection: The immune system isn't as strong as in healthy animals, milk production decreases, cow longevity is shorter and the probability to be culled is higher amongst BLV-positive animals, compared to BLV-negative ones.

Canada is not the only country facing this disease. Every country with a dairy industry has to cope with it. Cattle of many countries in Europe, as well as Australia and New Zealand used to be infected by the virus, but most of those countries established nationwide eradication programs and are now free of the disease. Therefore, export of animals and animal-derived products to these countries is restricted to testnegative animals.

BLV is a production limiting disease and control programs in North America are long overdue. Not only is it important to reduce financial losses to producers and industry, but it is also important to improve animal welfare and public perception about animal care. Infected



animals do suffer and that alone should be enough reason to tackle the disease. On top of that and because the virus is potentially cancer-causing, consumers might question the healthiness of dairy products. Even though there is no proof that the virus infects humans, it is a potential concern for consumers and a potential reason for them to reduce consumption of milk and beef products.

As there is neither a treatment nor a vaccine to treat the disease and animals are infected lifelong, a control program is the only way to address the disease. As the mentioned countries have proven, control and later eradication is possible. Easy to implement best-management practices, that are meant to stop the transmission of blood (and with it, the virus) from cow to cow, like the single-use of hypodermic needles, can help to

reduce the disease-prevalence on farm.

In the end, the eradication of virus and disease by culling without harming the economy of a farm, can be possible. As the tests used to detect infection are very reliable, it is easy to establish prevalence and infection status of the whole herd. This helps enormously in controling the disease. In contrast to many other diseases, BLV is easy to detect, prevention of important modes of transmission is doable so control and someday eradication should therefore be possible.

The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Calgary is currently working on the development of a producer-driven, adjustable and effective control program. It's time to take action.



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Dairy livestock identification and traceability—everyone's business

Mélissa Lalonde, National Traceability System Coordinator for Dairy Farmers of Canada

anadian dairy farmers have always taken pride in being at the forefront of animal and food safety. Creating a traceability system is another step in that ongoing commitment.

Full traceability is about helping consumers find the answer to their question, "where does my food come from?"

Canada's livestock traceability system is being implemented based on three foundational pillars - animal identification, premises identification, and animal movement recording and reporting. All dairy cattle are currently identified, and nearly all of Canada's dairy farms have an official premises identification number, which is issued by a provincial government. Animal movement recording and reporting is the last stage of traceability implementation, and industry is currently working toward achieving this goal.

Dairy Farmers of Canada is including traceability into their proAction Initiative for onfarm excellence as one of its six core modules. The others – milk quality, food safety, animal care, biosecurity and environment – are in various stages of implementation. The animal care and livestock traceability modules started to roll-out on farms in the fall of 2015. Quebec dairy farms already have a full traceability system in place. Their provincial system was implemented 15 years ago.

Not only is animal identification a key traceability pillar, it is also used for herd management treatment records, herd book registration, exportation certification, etc.

The requirements of proAction's



traceability module are to: have a premises identification number, double-tag dairy animals at birth with approved dairy tags (NLID/ATQ), maintain current birth records on farm, report animal birth information, record and report the reception of an animal at the farm (including import), and record and report tag retirement (on-farm animal disposal or export).

You will also be expected to report to the national agency within 7 days: animal arrival, on-farm death or export. Animal births must be reported withing 45 days or before animal leaves the farm of origin.

The information contained within traceability systems offers support to the integration of other proAction modules. It allows for fast and efficient trace-back of animals in the event of a disease or health threat (biosecurity or food safety modules), which can substantially limit the economic, environmental and social impact of emergency situations. Traceability, combined with other proactive onfarm measures related to animal care or quality for example, helps build and strengthen consumer confidence, and assists in gaining and preserving foreign market access for live cattle and genetics.

"Traceability, in a nutshell, is about building credibility, respect and trust with our customers and just as importantly now, our trading partners. If you're going to get into those foreign markets, you'd better have traceability," says Sid Atkinson, an Ontario dairy farmer and Chair of the livestock traceability module of proAction.

In addition to providing health benefits that protect producers and consumers, traceability technology can also be used by farmers to achieve even greater efficiencies and improved genetics. The Canadian dairy industry is world-renowned for its quality breeding stock and genetics. Technological advances that have come with the RFID tags have allowed multiple industry partners to input information on individual animals throughout their lives. The result is one stream of data management that can be added to by many stakeholders, which is used to further refine the attributes of the national dairy herd.

For further information, please visit www.dairyfarmers.ca/proaction/ resources/traceability.





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Sub-clinical Ketosis: the hidden disease

Every dairy producer has been faced with Ketosis in their herd. What you may not realize is how prevalent and costly it can be.

Dr. Ewen Ferguson, Veterinarian

etosis is a common metabolic disease that affects cows in early lactation. It is basically a supply and demand issue that occurs when there is an energy shortfall between what a cow can consume and the energy required to support a calf in the final stages of pregnancy and milk production during early lactation.

High energy demand, in the presence of a lagging feed intake, causes an energy deficiency. The cow will compensate by using her own body fat and through that process, ketones will be produced by the liver. Cows with Ketosis will have high circulating ketones in their bloodstream, and those ketones will further depress appetite and open the door to other metabolic diseases.

Cows with clinical Ketosis often exhibit a rapid loss of body condition, milk loss, dry, hard manure and sometimes nervous signs. We can observe these signs and treat the cow appropriately.

Cows with Sub-Clinical Ketosis (SCK) have increased levels of Ketones in their body fluids, but show no visible signs. These cows are at risk, but we have no way of knowing who they are or the status of the herd without testing. Cow side tests have been available for many years, and now the Ketoscreen from DHI makes herd monitoring extremely convenient and cost effective.

Figure 1, based on a large data set of a full year of Ketoscreen results shows the incidence of SCK. Figure 2 shows the distribution of herds by the % of cows positive. As you can see, there is a broad distribution, with lots of room for improvement for the majority of herds. If the positive cows within the herd exceeds 20%, then the herd is





considered to be high risk.

Further, the data shows a cow to cow difference (mature cows are more likely to be positive than heifers); a herd to herd difference (half of CanWest herds have over 20% of cows positive) and a seasonal difference (higher incidence of Ketosis in the winter and spring).

Why should we worry about SCK? It is a 'gate-way' disease—it opens the door to other metabolic diseases and also impairs immune function. Cows with SCK are at increased risk of being culled, of having a displacement, of having metritis, of having reduced reproductive performance and of having reduced milk production. A recent article by McArt estimates these costs to average \$289/case of SCK (SUS based on US milk price). Herds having greater than 20% incidence of SCK have a substantial loss of income from a disease we can't see unless measured.

Prevention is always best. So use Ketoscreen to see where you're at, make management changes, and then monitor your progress. When you couple that with early detection using cow-side tests and prompt treatment of positive cows, you will greatly improve the health of your herd and have a significant impact on your bottom line.



Lower milk price — now what?

Devin Brennan, Co-owner & President of Ocresco & Associates Inc.

aving worked for over 30 years in the industry, I can attest to a Canadian dairy industry that has no lack of passionate, resilient producers and industry professionals. We have seen many changes including a dramatic decline in the number of farm gates from 23,818 in 1996 to 11,683 in 2015

Today our industry is faced with further change. Milk prices are dropping significantly. From 2014 to 2015, depending on your farm's milk components, you will have seen a reduction in milk revenue of approximately 6.25% for the same milk. You just lost 6.25% of your margin, the question is, "now what do you do"?

All too often when faced with shrinking profit margins, farms cut the head off the same dragon. Typically, feed along with veterinarian services are the first to be scrutinized, simply because they represent a significant percent of the milk cheque and are tangible. Many of us agree, when herd data (reproduction, herd inventory, production, etc.) are properly recorded using DHI or other reporting software, the information is indispensable when looking for opportunities to improve profit margins; it can help you find the right dragon. Unfortunately, more often than not these data reports are used to manage daily herd actions or as a quick reference on herd performance but not as an evaluation tool for profit margin.

There are numerous ways to improve profit margins through the analysis of accurate herd and production data. Getting a grasp and understanding to what extent some of these can influence margins may be part of the solution to the 6.25% decrease in milk revenue. Take for example an operation that recognized they had inefficiencies in their business. They maintained good records but routinely produced the same reports to manage the herd. One type of report we pulled was the heifer inventory. They were running with 114% replacement animals compared to lactating cows. It led to further data evaluation where we uncovered 36% morbidity in young calves less than 2 months of age. In turn, this correlated to herd data showing us that 33% of culls in lactation were first calf heifers of which 66% were leaving in the first 100 DIM. By understanding the potential profit margin at play and taking the appropriate management decisions, an increase of 5.9% margin as percent of milk revenue (using 2015 milk prices for the dairy business) was realized.

The ability to maintain good reproductive performance is an essential part of profitability on most dairy farms. We are generally aware of acceptable benchmarks for reproductive performance, such as 21 day pregnancy

ZOetis

rates, voluntary wait period, days open, and so on. By taking it a step further and projecting what a positive change could represent as a percent of your milk revenue, it facilitates the decision making process, whether it means investing in facilities, veterinarian services, or time.

Managing for incentive days has historically been the proverbial thorn in many producers side. In 2015, if you managed to get all the incentive days with average milk components, it would have represented approximately 6.3% more milk revenue. Using herd management software such as Dairy Comp 305, to project herd inventory is an essential part of forecasting milk production. By understanding how to extract and interpret herd inventory projections, forecasting animals required can be made easier.

The key to any herd data analyses will be to work with a team that can help interpret and monetize the findings. Waiting for your accountant to come back with the year-end books is no longer the only source of financial information when it comes to managing for profit margins. Taking full advantage of the tools available to us, allowing for quarterly reviews, can only help us find the right dragon in the hunt for profit margin. There is no doubt our industry is changing and will continue to change; our challenge is to change with it.

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LOW SCC HERDS

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

PROVINCE	PRODUCER	СІТҮ	COWS (AVG)	AVG SCC X 1000
BRITISH COLUMBIA				
Tom Degroot	_	Rosedale	98	37
Wikksview Farm Ltd	Fred Wikkerink	Cobble Hill	71	54
Viewfield Farms Ltd	Dave Taylor	Courtenay	152	60
Neveridle Farms	Arthur Keulen	Delta	159	65
Shenandoah Dairy	_	Armstrong	39	67
Gala Dairy	Matthew & Brandy Schmidt	Chilliwack	29	68
Bert Tuytel	_	Chilliwack	60	75
Riverwater Farm Ltd	J Wikkerink	Duncan	132	80
Dinn Farms Ltd	Erin Bell & Martin Dinn	Agassiz	107	80
Lac Roix Acres	Rayner & Sharene Oosterhoff	Telkwa	53	80
Atson Farms Ltd	Allen Atsma	Abbotsford	235	83
Mike & Jo Van Boven Farm	Mike Van Boven	Duncan	61	84
Terroir Cheese Ltd	Len Marriott	Enderby	16	86
E & M Van Der Spek	_	Chilliwack	94	88
Luttmerding Farms	T & G Luttmerding	Armstrong	114	89
Brunoro Farms	Ed Brunoro	Aldergrove	44	91
Martiann Holsteins Ltd	Martin Hamming	Delta	204	94
Trinity Holsteins	Paul Schmidt	Mission	32	94
Kampvale Farms	Harold Van De Kamp	Chilliwack	70	95
Springbank Holsteins Ltd	_	Chilliwack	204 *	97
ALBERTA				
Earnewald Holsteins-Dejong Bros Ltd	_	Lacombe	148	57
Sylvanside Dairy Ltd	Sipke & Margreet Dijkstra	Ponoka	159	68
Freedom Dairy	Marinus Helmus	Barrhead	80	74
Rocky Mountain Holsteins	_	Cochrane	40	84
Scholten Dairy Ltd	Harm & Jennie Scholten	Barrhead	84	89
Houweling Farms Ltd	Pete Houweling	Coaldale	288	91
Nifera Holsteins	_	Nobleford	90	92
Gdl Farms Ltd	Gerrit Deleeuw	Picture Butte	108	93
Castor Farming Co Ltd	Joe Wipf	Castor	128	95
Arco Farms Ltd	Albert Bysterveld	Barrhead	90	98
Buffalorock Dairy	Jan & Joke & Berend Ridder	Olds	156	99
Deerfield Colony	Andy Waldner	Magrath	118	99
Ten Brummelhuis Dairy	Alfons & Wilma Ten Brummelhuis	Olds	130	102
Harmen Leusink	_	Picture Butte	119	106
West Coast Holstein Ltd	_	Ponoka	16	106
Roseglen Farming Co Ltd	Rueben Entz	Hilda	91	108
Milford Colony Farming Co Ltd	Mike Wipf	Raymond	99	110
Enterprise Lavoie	_	St Isidore	521	112
Poly-C Farms	Cor & Cathy Haagsma	Ponoka	338 *	112
Deerhaven	Glenda Mutrie	Thorsby	36	112
SASKATCHEWAN				
Daum Farms	Doug Daum	Dalmeny	48	72
Ronleen Holsteins	Ron & Cathy Schaeffer	Vibank	81	110
Bramville Farm	Fran & Joanne Edwards	Nokomis	59	117

LOW SCC HERDS										
PROVINCE	PRODUCER	СІТҮ	COWS (AVG)	AVG SCC X 1000						
CONTINUED										
Cypress Colony	Darrell Entz	Maple Creek	88	118						
Rynview Holsteins	Michael Wesselingh	Saskatoon	60	119						
Fox Valley Farming Co Ltd	Jake Entz	Fox Valley	81	123						
Dierker Enterprises	Neil & Terry Dierker	Mistatim	57	127						
Sierra Colony	_	Shaunavon	87 R	129						
Southland Colony	Southland Farming Co	Herbert	133	132						
Eatonia Farming Company Ltd	Dave Mandel	Eatonia	207	134						
MANITOBA										
Mageo Pouteau Farms Ltd	Chris & Carla Pouteau	Mariapolis	74	82						
Readore Farms	Rheal Simon	Notre Dame	139	93						
Holmestead Dairy	Russ & Crystal Holme	Anola	66	94						
Park Dairies	Larry & Wilma Park	Lake Francis	88	96						
CMT Farms Ltd	Michael Carels	Bruxelles	69	100						
Four Oak Farms	Armin Dueck	Kleefeld	52	102						
Airport Colony	Michael Maendel	Portage	75	104						
Malarky Holsteins	Mark Donohoe	Minnedosa	67	104						
Reutter Farms Ltd	Fritz Reutter	Grunthal	365	112						
Optimist Holsteins	Hans Gorter & Nelleke Vandervliet	Otterburne	151	114						

* Greater than 2x tests (All or Part), R: Robotic

PROVINCIAL STATISTICS												
	CALVING INTERVAL (MONTHS)		DRY PERIOD (DAYS)		AGE AT FIRST CA	AGE AT FIRST CALVING (MONTHS)		(AVG)				
	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015				
British Columbia	14.0	14.0	70	68	26.3	26.2	184	198				
Alberta	13.7	13.7	77	75	26.3	26.2	211	221				
Saskatchewan	14.1	14.1	83	81	26.8	26.1	254	240				
Manitoba	14.4	14.4	85	84	27.3	27.2	258	258				
Ontario	14.0	13.9	71	68	26.4	26.3	233	232				
Quebec	13.9	13.8	65	63	26.5	26.3	222	223				
New Brunswick	13.8	13.9	67	66	27.5	27.3	203	206				
Nova Scotia	14.0	14.0	71	67	27.7	27.3	224	240				
Prince Edward Island	14.3	14.2	78	75	27.9	27.4	211	215				
Newfoundland	13.9	13.6	73	68	27.1	27.0	221	239				

	ENROLLMENT											
	BRITISH COLUMBIA	ALBERTA	SASKATCHEWAN	MANITOBA	2012	2013	2014	2015 [*]				
DHI Herds	317	427	105	192	1,103	1,079	1061	1,041				
Percent Publishable	78%	58%	66%	71%	69%	68%	68%	67%				
Percent Management	22%	42%	34%	29%	31%	32%	32%	33%				
DHI Cows	51,852	59,709	18,549	28,571	158,281	153,845	154,649	158,681				
Percent Publishable	69%	61%	66%	67%	69%	68%	68%	65%				
Percent Management	31%	39%	34%	33%	31%	32%	32%	35%				
Average Herd Size	164	140	177	149	144	143	146	152				

* All Western Provinces

	PRODUCTION TRENDS (Kg's)												
BRITISH COLUMBIA					ALBERTA		SASKATCHEWAN				MANITOBA		
	Milk	Fat	Protein	Milk	Fat	Protein	Milk	Fat	Protein	Milk	Fat	Protein	
2015	10,071	386	323	10,015	386	319	9,964	383	320	9,633	365	308	
2014	9,915	378	317	9,767	373	311	10,011	379	323	9,457	357	300	
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	

COMPLETE LACTATIONS (Kg's)

			ZO15 Avg DIM Milk Milk Fat Protein Avg DIM Milk 0,244 394 331 314 10,11 0,464 406 338 314 10,27 9,854 372 318 314 9,84 9,979 389 320 301 9,83 0,296 401 330 303 10,16 9,507 372 306 298 9,35 0,310 403 335 308 10,16 0,299 406 338 328 9,74 0,106 388 324 315 10,019 0,291 393 329 317 10,113			2014			
		Milk	Fat	Protein	Avg DIM	Milk	Fat	Protein	Avg DIM
	AII	10,244	394	331	314	10,117	386	326	310
BRITISH COLUMBIA	Publishable	10,464	406	338	314	10,274	394	330	311
	Management	9,854	372	318	314	9,846	373	317	309
	All	9,979	389	320	301	9,833	380	316	304
ALBERTA	Publishable	10,296	401	330	303	10,161	392	326	304
	Management	9,507	372	306	298	9,357	363	301	303
	All	10,310	403	336	317	9,983	383	325	308
SASKATCHEWAN	Publishable	10,319	400	335	308	10,161	393	331	305
	Management	10,299	406	338	328	9,741	369	317	312
	All	10,106	388	324	315	10,015	383	320	320
MANITOBA	Publishable	10,291	393	329	317	10,113	385	323	320
	Management	9,835	380	318	311	9,882	381	317	321

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REGIONAL STATISTICS (Generated throughout the year)												
			305 (Kg)			BCA			COMPO	SITE BCA		
REGION	Herds	Milk	Fat	Protein	Milk	Fat	Protein	2012	2013	2014	2015	
BRITISH COLUMBIA	317	10,071	386	323	229	231	228	222.3	223.4	225.0	229.2	
Agassiz	22	9,941	383	316	219	227	218	217.6	218.0	220.0	221.6	
Central British Columbia	10	8,449	328	274	194	192	193	186.3	188.3	187.3	193.0	
Chilliwack	68	10,386	394	331	237	237	235	230.6	231.3	233.4	236.2	
Courtenay-Comox	7	9,190	370	299	209	222	213	204.0	212.5	208.4	214.8	
Cowichan	23	10,216	396	327	226	235	227	221.6	224.9	219.6	229.3	
Delta-Richmond	13	10,379	398	336	231	238	234	220.5	223.1	230.8	234.4	
Dewdney-Deroche	28	10,000	391	321	235	236	232	230.0	231.7	231.2	234.2	
Kamloops-Okanagan	56	10,103	390	326	228	232	229	222.6	220.8	225.7	229.5	
Kootenay	6	9,105	340	288	207	202	203	219.1	197.0	194.1	203.8	
Matsqui	21	10,220	387	323	230	233	227	212.7	217.5	220.8	230.1	
Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge	8	9,682	380	312	237	228	231	229.8	236.3	230.1	232.0	
Sumas	32	10,172	388	327	233	234	233	226.0	226.9	229.7	233.6	
Surrey-Langley	23	10,035	376	321	225	224	225	222.0	223.4	224.7	224.9	
ALBERTA	427	10,015	386	319	224	231	223	216.0	217.0	219.1	225.9	
Calgary	51	9,855	384	315	221	229	221	218.3	219.8	222.0	223.8	
Edmonton	88	9,555	366	307	212	217	213	207.7	208.4	207.5	214.1	
Lethbridge-Brooks	127	10,141	390	321	226	234	225	222.9	221.9	222.0	228.2	
Peace River	2	10,600	409	332	239	249	235	209.6	199.8	230.8	240.5	
Red Deer	146	10.285	396	327	229	237	229	215.5	218.2	223.0	231.6	
Vermilion	13	9,404	379	305	222	233	223	212.3	216.3	217.4	226.0	
SASKATCHEWAN	105	9,964	383	320	221	229	223	213.5	217.1	223.4	224.4	
Canora	3	9.976	354	325	217	208	222	188.9	187.5	205.1	215.8	
Prince Albert-Melfort	6	9,767	369	318	219	222	224	206.2	208.5	219.8	221.7	
Regina	16	10,218	390	323	223	230	222	221.5	223.2	226.6	225.1	
Saskatoon	12	9,759	381	315	219	225	220	210.9	218.1	224.2	221.4	
Saskatoon Fast	26	10 079	387	321	225	233	225	219 5	223.0	227.9	227.6	
Saskatoon West	14	9 918	307	321	223	235	223	213.3	217.3	227.3	226.7	
Swift Current	23	9,868	379	318	221	220	221	213.9	218.5	223.6	224 7	
Weyburn	5	9,853	371	315	212	215	213	205.5	203.7	202.1	213.1	
MANITOBA	192	9,633	365	308	216	218	216	202.4	209.4	211.5	216.6	
Central	57	9,918	370	318	222	221	222	207.8	212.2	216.1	221.8	
Eastern	88	9.492	361	302	214	217	213	199.2	206.8	208.3	214.7	
Interlake	34	9,677	370	307	213	217	212	203.6	211.7	211.6	213.9	
South West	13	9,229	349	303	217	209	218	202.9	214.5	213.5	214.5	

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PRODUCER PROFILE Fehr Farms, La Broquerie, MB

The Fehrs emigrated from Switzerland in 2001 and Andreas joined them two years later after completing his apprenticeship in dairy herd management. They are pleased that here in Canada they can expand by buying land and quota.

The freestall barn, built in 2005, has comfort mats and a tunnel ventilation system that in the summer "really pulls the air through."

The cows are milked by two Delaval robots, installed almost four years ago, which "gives us more time to pay attention to the cows." They raise their own heifer replacements, in a recent newly built heifer facility. Andreas' father, Jakob, is in charge of herd health, including vaccinations and reproductive performance. His mother, Anna, tends the calves and takes care of the book keeping.

Dr. Claus Leppelmann of Beausejour Animal Hospital gets a great deal of credit for improving the Herd Management Score at Fehr Farms, from fifth spot in 2014 to second for MB in 2015.

Dr. Leppelmann came on board almost five years ago and helped eradicate Mycoplasma mastitis in the herd of 130 milking Holsteins. Using DHI whole-herd Mastitis DNA testing, "we were able to get rid of it, "Andreas says. "It had been a struggle, but from there things improved." Doing cow side testing for ketosis 3 and 10 days after calving helped improve the cows start in the new lactation.



Andreas also keeps a close watch on DHI butterfat test results because he wants more than 400 kilograms of butterfat per cow per lactation, and preferably over 500. "We get paid by milk components, that's why I'm more interested in kilograms of butterfat and protein produced, instead of liters of milk." he says.

The cows are fed a ration recommended by nutritionist Chris Elias of Landmark Feeds. It features corn silage and haylage, high-moisture corn in the winter and dry corn in the summer, premix and "a little bit of straw."

		MANITOBA HERD	MANAGEME	NT SCORE				
RANK	FARM NAME	OWNER	СІТҮ	REGION	SCORE	HERD SIZE	B	REED
1	Mageo Pouteau Farms Ltd	Chris & Carla Pouteau	Mariapolis	Central	864	74		H
2	Fehr Farm	Jakob, Ana & Andreas Fehr	La Broquerie	Eastern	855	138 I	2	H
3	Zacland Dairy	Conrad & Val Zacharias	Winkler	Central	839	41		H
4	Columbine Holsteins	Jacob & Annita Benthem	Elm Creek	Central	838	97		H
5	Labass Holsteins Ltd	Jan & Tracy Bassa	La Broquerie	Eastern	835	523 [°]	ĸ	H
6	Plemark Holsteins	Matt & Tanya Plett	Blumenort	Eastern	821	76	ĸ	H
7	Van Dorp Dairy Ltd	Bill & Tanja Van Dorp	Petersfield	Interlake	820	161		H
8	Rocky Ridge Dairy	Hotze & Pietje Woudstra	Grunthal	Eastern	810	181		H
9	C & D Farms	Cornie Penner	Altona	Central	797	76		H
10	Isaac Dairy Ltd	Brent & Victoria Isaac	Kleefeld	Eastern	783	92	k	H
11	Optimist Holsteins	Hans Gorter & Nelleke Vandervliet	Otterburne	Eastern	781	151		H
12	Trehane Holsteins	David & Liz Stephens	Niverville	Eastern	771	129 I	2	H
13	Sweetridge Farms	Harold & Miriam Sweetnam	Winkler	Eastern	760	270	k	H
14	Optimal Dairy	Steve Boerchers & Ellen Gorter	Beausejour	Eastern	734	116	k	H
15	Bannisters Dairy	John, Andy & Dave Bannister	Lockport	Interlake	730	131		H
16	Clearvale Farm	Jonathan & Judy Hocking	Steinbach	Eastern	727	98 I	2	H
17	Vancrest Holsteins	Ron & Vivian Vanwalleghem	Glenlea	Central	723	106 I	2	H
18	Sturgeon Creek Colony	Samuel Waldner	Headingley	Interlake	723	64		H
19	Malarky Holsteins	Mark Donohoe	Minnedosa	South West	718	67		H
20	Holmestead Dairy	Russ & Crystal Holme	Anola	Eastern	718	66		Н

PRODUCER PROFILE Sierra Colony, Shaunavon, SK

Thomas Kleinsasser, manager of the herd that went from 3rd to first overall for Herd Management Score in Saskatchewan, is operating in fairly new facilities at the Sierra Colony near Shaunavon.

The dairy barn has been operational for about four and half years. "At first we had a few issues" says Thomas, "but after a bit a time, once we got things figured out and settled in, the cows started doing really well."

Thomas began almost six years ago as an assistant at the mother colony, about four miles away, and helped manage a herd that was purchased and added to the existing herd with the intention of moving it when the new facilities were ready.

The Sierra Dairy features two Lely robotic milkers. "We love them," says Thomas.

DairySmart Nutrition Group helps formulate the ration which features barley silage, alfalfa hay, grain and dried wheat distillers grain, soybean meal and a premix package, all blended in a partial TMR system.

The cows are comfortable on water beds and shavings. "One of the biggest reasons" for using CanWest DHI

services is to supply reports for the herd veterinarian, Dr. Josh Lindenbach, says Thomas. "We work closely with our



vet and it's important that he has all the information DHI can provide."

He also keeps a close eye on Somatic Cell Counts and performance records to cull the herd of 90 cows of which 80 are usually in milk production.

"I was heavenly blessed," Thomas says when asked about success in ranking first for the province. "We try our best every day and leave the rest to the Lord."

	SASKATCHEWAN HERD MANAGEMENT SCORE												
RANK	FARM NAME	OWNER	CITY	REGION	SCORE	HERD SIZ	Έ	BREED					
1	Sierra Colony	_	Shaunavon	Swift Current	902	87	R	Н					
2	Cypress Colony	Darrell Entz	Maple Creek	Swift Current	883	88		Н					
3	Fox Valley Farming Co Ltd	Jake Entz	Fox Valley	Swift Current	865	81		Н					
4	Dept. Animal & Poultry Science	-	Saskatoon	Saskatoon East	855	124	*	Н					
5	Rynview Holsteins	Michael Wesselingh	Saskatoon	Saskatoon East	849	60		Н					
6	Elkrest Farms	Brad Jason Trevor Kornelius	Osler	Saskatoon East	829	763	*	Н					
7	Pennant Colony	Dan Wipf	Pennant	Swift Current	826	92		Н					
8	Diamond Holsteins	Phil & Howard Huizing	Osler	Saskatoon	814	328	*	H					
9	Quill Lake Colony	Robert Tschetter	Quill Lake	Saskatoon	802	118		H					
10	Alley Holsteins	Albert Leyenhorst	Dalmeny	Saskatoon East	800	179	*	H					
11	Downie Lake Colony	Josh Hofer	Maple Creek	Swift Current	795	91		H					
12	Ludwig Dairies	Terry & Bonnie Ludwig	Delisle	Saskatoon	792	184		Н					
13	Foth Ventures Ltd	Melvin Foth	Hague	Saskatoon East	770	456	*	H					
14	Vandenbrink Dairy Farms	Henk Van Den Brink	Saskatoon	Saskatoon West	769	147	*	H					
15	Vinoridge Farm	Kevin & Robert Coghill	Mclean	Regina	759	208		H					
16	Star City Colony	Ruben Tschetter	Star City	Prince Albert-Melfort	756	211		H					
17	Kessel Family Farm	Raymond Kessel	Balgonie	Regina	753	162		H					
18	Dairy Barn	Clearspring Farming Company	Kenaston	Saskatoon	751	209		H					
19	Bench Farming Co Ltd	_	Shaunavon	Swift Current	730	90		Н					
20	Marfay Farms Ltd	Merlis & Mark Wiebe	Osler	Saskatoon East	728	254	*	Н					

PRODUCER PROFILE Hylac Holsteins, Ponoka, AB

Hylac Holsteins of Ponoka, vaulted from 52nd to fourth rank in the province for Herd Management Score last year, largely because owner Ken Fenske was able to devote his full attention to the herd.

"In the last few years, things had been busy both on and off the farm. We sold the beef herd and made the dairy herd a priority" says Ken. It helped that son Craig, who does most of the fieldwork, was able to harvest three cuts of top-quality hay that included a field seeded two years ago to mainly alfalfa.

The free-stall barn built in 1992 is kept in good shape and feed is dispensed by computer-driven controls at the stalls. It's a combination of round-bale hay, forages and purchased grains. Nutritionist Jamie McAllister of Champion Feeds "is a big help" keeping an eye on the condition of the cows, sampling ingredients for nutrient analyses and helping to formulate rations. Dr. Kelly Loree of the Central Vet Clinic does herd health and is an important part of the team.

Ken says that when the DHI reports come, the first thing he checks is Somatic Cell Counts, then the Herd Summary for milk production and components. He also likes the new ketosis testing service.

He enjoys genetics and planning matings to correct the weak points of each cow. "It's what I like most about dairy farming and seeing improvements."



The herd was started in 1953 when his parents bought some heifers and it's been a closed herd ever since; not one addition has been purchased.

He became part of a family partnership with his father and brother in 1977 and graduated to his own farm in 1992.

While Ken does most of the work with the 65 cow herd, he does get help from his wife Donna, and long term employee Kathryn Wilson who does four milkings a week and helps with chores. They have two daughters and another son who have off-farm jobs.

	ALBERTA HERD MANAGEMENT SCORE											
RANK	FARM NAME	OWNER	CITY	REGION	SCORE	HERD SIZE	BREED					
1	Roseglen Farming Co Ltd	Rueben Entz	Hilda	Lethbridge-Brooks	949	91	Н					
2	Deerfield Colony	Andy Waldner	Magrath	Lethbridge-Brooks	944	118	Н					
3	Wetoka Farms Ltd	Michael & Marla Roth	Millet	Red Deer	935	65	Н					
4	Hylac Holsteins	Ken & Donna Fenske	Ponoka	Red Deer	914	64	Н					
5	Poly-C Farms	Cor & Cathy Haagsma	Ponoka	Red Deer	891	338 *	Н					
6	Nifera Holsteins	-	Nobleford	Lethbridge-Brooks	889	90	Н					
7	Sylvanside Dairy Ltd	Sipke & Margreet Dijkstra	Ponoka	Red Deer	888	159	Н					
8	Mars Dairy	Gert & Sonja Schrijver	Stettler	Red Deer	886	266 *	Н					
9	Lazy Acres Dairy	Hendrik De Gier	Ponoka	Red Deer	884	123 R	Н					
10	Earnewald Holsteins-Dejong Bros Ltd	-	Lacombe	Red Deer	881	148	Н					
11	Prairiehome Colony Farming Co Ltd	Jonathan Waldner	Wrenthem	Lethbridge-Brooks	875	120	Н					
12	H & W Rommens Farms	H & W Rommens	Duchess	Lethbridge-Brooks	870	216	Н					
13	Joseph Wurz	Old Elm Colony Farming Co Ltd	Magrath	Lethbridge-Brooks	868	115	Н					
14	Aspenridge Farms Ltd	Dick & Steve Tenhove	Blackfalds	Red Deer	867	52	Н					
15	Ridder Farms Ltd	-	Ponoka	Red Deer	867	168	Н					
16	Cspring Farming Co Ltd	Henry Entz	Magrath	Lethbridge-Brooks	862	116	Н					
17	New Elm Farming Co Ltd	Jason Entz	Magrath	Lethbridge-Brooks	860	74	Н					
18	Buffalorock Dairy	Jan & Joke & Berend Ridder	Olds	Calgary	859	156	Н					
19	Hulleman Farms	Martijn Hulleman	Lacombe	Red Deer	859	76	Н					
20	Adventure Holsteins Ltd	-	Rocky Mtn House	Red Deer	858	126	Н					

PRODUCER PROFILE Country Charm Farms, Matsqui, BC

Chris Huizing and his son, Joel, managed their herd of 230 purebred Holsteins to top spot for Herd Management Score in British Columbia in 2015. They were able to improve milk values and lower their heifers' age at calving to pull their herd from fourth to first in the province.

They give a lot of credit to their team of advisors for the success. Veterinarian, Dr. Lisa McRae, and nutritionist Jeremy Plesman play a key role in the operation. They meet twice monthly to review and discuss herd health, performance and review DHI data. As a team, they are always looking for opportunities for improvements.

Their DHI services include monitoring herd ketosis levels with the new Ketoscreen service, and they adjust ration energy levels accordingly. They use the Mastitis 4 test and have also done some Leukosis testing. They use the Dairy Comp software extensively and pay close attention to that data and reports.

They have put emphasis on cow comfort, with sand bedding in large 48 inches wide stalls that are nine and a half feet long. There are lots of stalls so the cows are never crowded and they have rubber-mat flooring where cows stand to feed. Fans and a misting system are in place to help minimize the impact of heat stress. The cows are fed grass silage, corn silage, barley, beet pulp, canola meal, ground peas, wet brewer's grain and a protein supplement.



Chris' parents immigrated to Alberta from The Netherlands in the late 1950s, moved to Abbotsford in 1959 where his father worked for seven years on a dairy farm, then rented their current farm at Matsqui in 1967. Five years later they bought it.

They hire 8 people, a full-time feeder as well as a fulltime morning milker who also checks fresh cows. The rest of employees are part-timers that help with the three-times-a-day milking and the feeding of calves.

	BR	ITISH COLUMBIA	HERD MANAG	GEMENT SCOR	E		
RANK	FARM NAME	OWNER	CITY	REGION	SCORE	HERD SIZE	BREED
1	Country Charm Farms Ltd	Huizing Brothers	Matsqui	Matsqui	935	233 *	Н
2	Milky Way Dairy	Frank & Debbie Les	Chilliwack	Chilliwack	913	74	H
3	Trinity Holsteins	Paul Schmidt	Mission	Dewdney-Deroche	902	32	H
4	Springbank Holsteins Ltd	-	Chilliwack	Chilliwack	899	204 *	Н
5	Tonesa Holsteins Ltd	Glenn De Groot	Chilliwack	Chilliwack	894	135 *	Н
6	Kambro Farms Ltd	Doug, Tom & Will Kampman	Abbotsford	Matsqui	886	403 *	Н
7	Romyn Hill Farm Ltd	Brad & Jodi Romyn	Sorrento	Kamloops-Okanagan	885	48 R	Н
8	Tekoa Dairy Inc	Harvey Haan	Chilliwack	Chilliwack	875	292 *	Н
9	Chrisma Dairy Ltd	C Baird	Armstrong	Kamloops-Okanagan	874	34	Н
10	Abbeyview Dairies Ltd #2	Theo Van Der Kooi	Rosedale	Chilliwack	873	259 *	Н
11	Melinke Farms Ltd	Theo Stoker	Deroche	Dewdney-Deroche	872	118	Н
12	Fraser Edge Farms	Sid Stoker	Deroche	Dewdney-Deroche	870	138 *	Н
13	Lavender Farms Ltd	Gerrit Vaandrager	Abbotsford	Matsqui	865	155 R	Н
14	UBC Dairy Education & Research	Nelson Dinn	Agassiz	Agassiz	865	298	Н
15	Roemer Farms Ltd	Heinz & Yvonne Roemer	Mill Bay	Cowichan	862	118	Н
16	Shadow Ridge Dairy	Kevin Mammel	Agassiz	Chilliwack	860	110 *	Н
17	Hamming Holsteins Ltd	Walter & Peggy Hamming	Vernon	Kamloops-Okanagan	859	159	Н
18	Veldhuisen Dairy Ltd	Michael Veldhuisen	Armstrong	Kamloops-Okanagan	859	96	Н
19	Valedoorn Farms Inc	Tom & John Hoogendorn	Agassiz	Agassiz	854	290	H
20	Lindrian Farms	John Tamis	Surrey	Surrey-Langley	854	82	Н

	BRITISH CO		UBLISI	HABL	EHE		SIIN	GS			
5404	000055			B	CA		rds	KILO	OGRAMS		
FARM	OWNER	CITY	Average	Milk	Fat	Protein	Reco	Milk	Fat	Protein	RKFED
Romyn Hill Farm Ltd	Brad & Jodi Romyn	Sorrento	304.0	312	294	306	38	13,658 R	477	425	H
Triwest Farms	Vic & Terry Triemstra	Chilliwack	303.7	300	320	291	113	13,170 *	522	408	Н
Tonesa Holsteins Ltd	Glenn De Groot	Chilliwack	298.7	292	317	287	106	13,000 *	524	408	Н
G & A Ferguson	Gordon & Angela Ferguson	Enderby	289.0	293	282	292	85	9,609	440	341	J,H,A
Wisselview Farms	Wayne & Judy Wisselink	Pitt Meadows	287.3	290	281	291	105	13,201 *	476	421	Н
Westar Holsteins	Robert Matzek	Rosedale	285.0	297	272	286	45	13,720 R	467	423	Н
Jennifer Veldhuisen	-	Grindrod	282.7	270	299	279	38	11,733	483	387	Н
Fraser Edge Farms	Sid Stoker	Deroche	280.7	276	291	275	109	12,070 *	472	383	Н
Country Charm Farms Ltd	Huizing Brothers	Matsqui	280.3	274	291	276	190	12,488 *	491	400	Н
Hammingview Farms Ltd	Yvonne Murdoch	Pitt Meadows	279.7	279	282	278	71	12,522	470	397	Н
Malabar Farm	Norman Vander Wyk	Dewdney	279.0	281	283	273	120	12,522 *	467	387	Н
Kambro Farms Ltd	Doug, Tom & Will Kampman	Abbotsford	276.0	280	278	270	351	11,160 *	451	356	H,J
Coanwood Farms Ltd	Larry Wigham	Chilliwack	276.0	286	266	276	75	12,568	434	387	Н
Milky Way Dairy	Frank & Debbie Les	Chilliwack	275.3	269	291	266	66	11,917	481	376	Н
Lindrian Farms	John Tamis	Surrey	274.3	279	269	275	59	11,534	446	372	H,G
Veldhuisen Dairy Ltd	Michael Veldhuisen	Armstrong	273.3	267	280	273	81	12,026	467	391	Н
Lavender Farms Ltd	Gerrit Vaandrager	Abbotsford	273.0	278	275	266	117	12,575 R	463	383	Н
Baarsview Farms Inc	Harry Baars	Deroche	272.0	269	283	264	90	12,443 *	487	388	Н
B & L Farms Ltd	Matt Dykshoorn	Abbotsford	269.3	271	271	266	43	11,918	443	371	Н
Gifford Acres Farm Ltd	-	Abbotsford	268.3	284	257	264	101	12,480 R	419	371	Н

To be included, 50% or more of total records contributing to the herd's average must be Publishable. Minimum 8 records required. *Greater than 2x tests (All or Part) R: Robotic

	ALBER		HABL	E HEF	RD LI	STING	iS				
5404	000000			BC	A		rds	KIL	OGRAMS		
FARM	OWNER	CITY	Average	Milk	Fat	Protein	Reco	Milk	Fat	Protein	BREED
Mars Dairy	Gert & Sonja Schrijver	Stettler	311.3	311	322	301	201	14,276 *	549	439	H
Aspenridge Farms Ltd	Dick & Steve Tenhove	Blackfawlds	303.3	293	317	300	41	13,350	535	435	Н
Lucky Hill Dairy	-	Lacombe	300.3	298	306	297	150	13,425 *	514	427	H
Stamm Dairy	Heinrich & Beatrice Stamm	Ponoka	292.7	298	285	295	96	12,783 R	455	404	Н
Royal Hill Farm	_	Lacombe	290.3	287	304	280	227	12,449 *	491	388	H
Deerfield Colony	Andy Waldner	Magrath	285.3	271	315	270	107	11,951	515	379	H
Poly-C Farms	Cor & Cathy Haagsma	Ponoka	283.0	281	295	273	290	12,255 *	478	380	Н
Earnewald Holsteins	-	Lacombe	280.7	277	293	272	128	12,065	473	378	H
New Rockport Colony	Simon Waldner	New Dayton	277.0	270	292	269	99	11,794	474	375	Н
Nifera Holsteins	-	Nobleford	277.0	280	283	268	76	12,767	477	388	H
Rockport Colony	Tim Hofer	Magrath	276.3	277	278	274	86	12,372	459	389	Н
Breevliet Ltd	J De Goeij	Wetaskiwin	269.3	267	273	268	368	12,038 *	457	385	Н
Mosnang Holsteins Ltd	Heini & Ruth Hehli	Rimbey	269.3	257	299	252	80	11,534	506	362	H,J
El-Shaddai Dairies Inc	Harvey & Geoff Volkman	Leduc County	269.0	269	276	262	87	12,106	461	375	Н
Janna Dairy Ltd	John & Shanna Hulsman	Ponoka	268.7	267	276	263	128	11,964 *	459	376	Н
Prairiehome Colony Farming	Jonathan Waldner	Wrenthem	268.3	271	266	268	107	11,906	434	375	Н
Lathom Colony	Mike Hofer	Bassano	268.0	264	273	267	110	11,179	428	360	Н
Vanden Pol Dairy	Gys & Silia Vanden Pol	Coaldale	267.0	271	264	266	76	12,377 R	449	387	Н
Sylvanside Dairy Ltd	Sipke & Margreet Dijkstra	Ponoka	265.3	262	281	253	140	11,826	470	363	H
Rainbow Colony	Albert Hofer	Red Deer County	265.3	261	269	266	49	11,061 R	424	360	Н

To be included, 50% or more of total records contributing to the herd's average must be Publishable. Minimum 8 records required. *Greater than 2x tests (All or Part) R: Robotic

	SASKAICH	IEWAN PU	JBLISF	IABL	E HEF	RD LIS	SIINC	iS			
				B	CA		rds	KIL	OGRAMS		
FARM	OWNER	CITY	Average	Milk	Fat	Protein	Reco	Milk	Fat	Protein	BREED
Rynview Holsteins	Michael Wesselingh	Saskatoon	295.0	305	294	286	45	14,027	500	418	H
Foth Ventures Ltd	Melvin Foth	Hague	287.3	282	293	287	358	12,581 *	485	408	Н
Dept Animal & Poultry Science	_	Saskatoon	267.7	268	269	266	111	11,809 *	441	374	Н
Alley Holsteins	Albert Leyenhorst	Dalmeny	267.3	265	272	265	154	11,919 *	454	378	Н
Quill Lake Colony	Robert Tschetter	Quill Lake	267.3	255	289	258	97	11,308	475	364	Н
Elkrest Farms	B, J & T Kornelius	O sler	266.0	263	270	265	636	11,743 *	449	377	Н
Abbyview Farms	Ben Vanderkooi	Saskatoon	262.3	255	274	258	347	11,068 *	443	358	H,B
Calvin & Diane Vaandrager	-	Langham	261.0	263	256	264	44	11,731 *	424	376	Н
Robella Holsteins	Reg & Juliann Lindenbach	Balgonie	260.3	251	281	249	58	11,689	484	367	Н
Broyhill Holsteins	B, L & A Lindenbach	Balgonie	259.3	255	268	255	75	11,818	458	374	H
Pennant Colony	Dan Wipf	Pennant	255.3	252	257	257	82	11,336	428	368	Н
Smiley Hutterite Colony	Leonard Kleinsasser	Smiley	254.3	240	278	245	109	10,509	451	342	H
Postma Dairy Ltd	Jent Postma	Saskatoon	254.0	241	276	245	135	11,167	473	360	Н
Eatonia Farming Company Ltd	Dave Mandel	Eatonia	251.3	245	257	252	155	11,122	433	364	H
Vandenbrink Dairy Farms	Henk Van Den Brink	Saskatoon	250.3	245	267	239	125	10,875 *	441	338	Н
Kessel Family Farm	Raymond Kessel	Balgonie	247.3	251	242	249	131	11,415	407	360	Н
Ludwig Dairies	Terry & Bonnie Ludwig	Delisle	247.0	239	260	242	157	10,968	442	352	Н
Baumann Holsteins	Emanuel Baumann	Kipling	246.3	243	247	249	50	11,542	435	375	Н
Kenbert Acres	Ken & Ryan Friesen	Drake	245.0	244	249	242	98	11,127	421	351	H
Star City Colony	Ruben Tschetter	Star City	244.0	234	256	242	186	10,280	415	338	Н

To be included, 50% or more of total records contributing to the herd's average must be Publishable. Minimum 8 records required. *Greater than 2x tests (All or Part) R: Robotic

	MANITO	DBA PUBI	ISHAB	BLE H	ERD	LISTIN	IGS				
FADM	OWNED	CITY		B	CA		ords	KIL	OGRAMS		DDEED
FARM	UWNER	CIT	Average	Milk	Fat	Protein	Reco	Milk	Fat	Protein	BREED
Hueging Dairies	Hermann & Curtis Hueging	Woodlands	309.0	306	319	302	111	14,237	548	447	H
Current Holsteins	Darren & Allison Hueging	Woodlands	306.3	301	316	302	63	13,955	541	444	Н
Isaac Dairy Ltd	Brent & Victoria Isaac	Kleefeld	281.0	275	309	259	79	12,470 *	519	374	Н
Friecrest Holsteins	Ed & Kathy Friesen	Kleefeld	272.7	269	292	257	73	11,747	474	358	Н
Clearvale Farm	Jonathan & Judy Hocking	Steinbach	271.7	272	276	267	92	11,731 R	441	367	Н
Plemark Holsteins	Matt & Tanya Plett	Blumenort	268.0	270	272	262	71	12,307 *	466	382	H,J
Labass Holsteins Ltd	Jan & Tracy Bassa	La Broquerie	267.0	263	278	260	424	11,606 *	455	366	Н
James Valley Colony	Tim Wurtz	Elie	262.7	268	264	256	61	12,306 *	449	373	Н
Tri Lea Farm	Richard Boonstoppel	Grunthal	260.7	251	280	251	63	11,056 R	456	350	Н
Malarky Holsteins	Mark Donohoe	Minnedosa	260.0	263	259	258	49	11,837	430	368	Н
Vandel Holsteins	L Vandenbossche	Bruxelles	259.7	258	256	265	101	11,670	430	382	Н
Lifewind Holsteins	Christophe Roulin	Stonewall	259.7	254	270	255	93	12,040 *	474	383	Н
Columbine Holsteins	Jacob & Annita Benthem	Elm Creek	259.3	257	257	264	87	11,559	430	378	Н
Optimal Dairy	Boerchers & Gorter	Beausejour	256.3	259	266	244	98	11,728 *	444	351	Н
Trehane Holsteins	David & Liz Stephens	Niverville	254.7	265	244	255	109	11,903 R	408	365	Н
Vancrest Holsteins	Ron & Vivian Vanwalleghem	Glenlea	254.7	257	251	256	93	11,598 R	421	369	Н
Optimist Holsteins	H Gorter & N Vandervliet	Otterburne	254.3	248	270	245	125	10,791	438	341	H,J
Fehr Farm	Jakob, Ana & Andreas Fehr	La Broquerie	254.0	256	259	247	111	11,684 R	438	358	Н
Muller Farms	Richard Muller	Notre Dame	254.0	263	237	262	52	11,545 R	385	365	Н
Sunflo Dairy	Morley & Kathleen Sundell	Holland	253.3	261	253	246	50	11,928	429	357	Н

To be included, 50% or more of total records contributing to the herd's average must be Publishable. Minimum 8 records required. *Greater than 2x tests (All or Part) R: Robotic

			DEN	IOGRAPH	HICS				
		HERI	D SIZE		HOL	JSING	FREQ	UENCY	ROBOTIC
	0-49	50-99	100-199	200+	Tie-Stall	Free-Stall	2×	3×	
BRITISH COLUMBIA									
Number of Herds	31	94	123	69	11	304	238	39	40
Percent of Herds	9.8	29.7	38.8	21.8	3.5	95.9	75.1	12.3	12.6
Percent of Cows	2.0	13.7	32.7	51.6	1.2	97.9	66.7	24.8	8.5
Average Herd Size	33.8	75.8	137.8	387.4	57.4	166.9	145.3	330.4	109.9
Average 305 Milk	9,375	9,678	10,324	10,468	9,399	10,107	9,801	11,160	10,615
Average 305 Fat	362	373	398	396	363	388	379	425	394
Average 305 Protein	303	311	331	333	309	323	315	354	335
BCA Milk	214	221	234	235	225	229	224	253	235
BCA Fat	215	221	239	239	217	232	227	257	233
BCA Protein	214	220	234	235	225	228	224	250	233
Average SCC	162	195	195	221	214	197	190	218	224
ALBERTA									
Number of Herds	24	126	210	67	38	384	360	22	45
Percent of Herds	5.6	29.5	49.2	15.7	8.9	89.9	84.3	5.2	10.5
Percent of Cows	1.4	16.0	48.4	34.2	4.9	94.4	80.3	9.9	9.9
Average Herd Size	35.7	75.7	137.6	304.7	77.2	146.8	133.1	267.6	131.2
Average 305 Milk	8,696	9,948	10,125	10,267	9,484	10,096	9,912	11,133	10,293
Average 305 Fat	330	377	394	396	360	390	384	425	382
Average 305 Protein	284	317	322	327	304	321	316	350	329
BCA Milk	204	220	226	230	210	226	221	248	231
BCA Fat	200	224	237	238	213	233	230	255	228
BCA Protein	205	220	225	230	211	225	221	245	231
Average SCC	264	220	211	243	231	220	218	215	256
SASKATCHEWAN									
Number of Herds	3	30	45	27	12	92	79	16	10
Percent of Herds	2.9	28.6	42.9	25.7	11.4	87.6	75.2	15.2	9.5
Percent of Cows	0.5	13.1	34.9	51.5	5.1	94.1	59.5	33.4	7.1
Average Herd Size	31.7	81.0	143.8	353.8	79.6	189.8	139.8	386.8	131.7
Average 305 Milk	8,470	9,798	10,071	10,137	9,471	10,024	9,747	10,957	10,098
Average 305 Fat	305	375	389	391	370	384	376	424	376
Average 305 Protein	263	315	324	324	304	322	313	348	328

SASKATCHEWAN (Con't)

176	220	223	225	213	222	217	243	225
171	225	232	234	217	230	224	253	226
173	222	225	226	213	224	218	242	230
216	219	245	286	203	253	234	280	300
18	90	58	26	66	126	142	18	32
9.4	46.9	30.2	13.5	34.4	65.6	74.0	9.4	16.7
2.4	23.4	27.5	46.8	18.3	81.7	63.5	22.7	13.8
37.7	74.3	135.3	513.8	79.0	185.4	127.8	360.1	123.2
8,602	9,672	9,771	9,909	9,661	9,619	9,373	10,968	10,038
330	364	372	373	370	362	358	411	370
278	309	312	314	309	307	301	343	318
195	218	217	223	218	216	211	244	224
197	218	221	226	219	217	214	246	222
196	217	217	222	216	215	211	240	222
245	245	277	297	240	274	252	304	282
	176 171 173 216 18 9.4 2.4 37.7 8,602 330 278 195 195 197 196 245	176220171225173222173222216219189018909.446.92.423.437.774.38,6029,672330364278309195218196217245245	1762202231712252321732222252162192452162192451890589.446.930.22.423.427.537.774.3135.38,6029,6729,771330364372278309312195218217196217217245245277	1762202232251712252322341732222252262162192452862162195826189058269.446.930.213.52.423.427.546.837.774.3135.3513.88,6029,6729,7719,909330364372373278309312314195218221226196217217222245245277297	176220223225213171225232234217173222225226213216219245286203UUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUU	176220223225213222171225232234217230173222225226213224216219245286203253UUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUU	176220223225213222217171225232234217230224173222225226213224218216219245286203253234UUU18905826661261429.446.930.213.534.465.674.02.423.427.546.818.381.763.537.774.3135.3513.879.0185.4127.88.6029.6729.7719.9099.6619.6199.373330364372373370362358278309312314309307301195218217223218216211196217217226219217214245245277297240274252	176220223225213222217243171225232234217230224253173222225226213224218242216219245286203253234280U145286203253234280U145286203253234280U145286203253234280U145286266126142189490582666126142189.446.930.213.534.465.674.09.42.423.427.546.818.381.763.522.73.7774.3135.3513.879.0185.4127.8360.18.6029.6729.7719.9099.6619.6199.37310.68330364372373370362358411278309312314309307301343195218217223218216211246196217214226219215214240196245277227216215211240245245277297240216211240



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Canadä

		DIS	POSAL	REAS	ONS				DISTRI	BUTION
									COWS	HERDS
REASON	BRITISH C	OLUMBIA	ALBE	RTA	SASKATO	CHEWAN	MANI	TOBA	0-9	3
									10-19	7
Reproductive	2 524	070/	A A11	27 %	766	10%	1 701	26%	20-29	10
	3,334	21 /0	4,411	21/0	700	19 /0	1,701	20/0	30-39	22
Mastitis/High SCC	2 695	20%	2 372	14%	571	14%	1 461	22%	40-49	34
mustitis/mgn see	2,033	20/0	2,572	11/0	5/1	11/0	1,101	2270	50-59	58
Low Milk Production	1 785	14%	2 699	16%	643	16%	859	13%	60-69	76
Low mint roundlion	1,700	11/0	2,000	1070	010	1070	000	1070	70-79	58
Feet & Lea Problems	1,635	12%	1,827	11%	367	9%	703	11%	80-89	62
r cet a Leg r toblenis	1,000	12.70	1,027	1170	007	0,0	700	11/0	90-99	86
Udder Breakdown	995	8%	1,720	10%	365	9%	615	9%	100-109	66
			-,						110-119	68
Sickness	927	7%	1.357	8%	448	11%	650	10%	120-129	64
			,						130-139	63
Injury/Accident	841	6%	722	4%	272	7%	298	5%	140-149	43
									150-159	34
Age	395	3%	600	4%	144	4%	187	3%	160-169	26
5									170-179	20
Exported	132	1%	515	3%	485	12%	71	1%	180-189	32
									190-199	20
Slow milker	223	2%	242	1%	31	1%	62	1%	200+	. 189
SIOW IIIIKEI	223	Z /0	242	1/0	31	I /0	02	I /0	All Pro	vinces



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		BRITISH C	OLUMBIA			ALBE	RTA	Medical		SASKATC	HEWAN		average	MANI	OBA	
MANAGEMENT CENTRE	25th	50th	75th	90th	25th	50th	75th	90th	25th	50th	75th	90th	25th	50th	75th	90th
Number of Cows	11	116	186	292	06	122	165	265	92	133	206	326	68	95	138	256
Standard Milk - Kgs	32.6	35.7	38.2	40.3	34	36.2	38.3	40.7	33.5	35.8	38.8	40.9	30.7	34.4	37.2	39.6
Annual Milk Value - \$	6,885	7,574	8,076	8,703	6,872	7,469	8,006	8,601	6,689	7,353	8,039	8,576	5,900	6,937	7,724	8,279
Udder Health - Linear Score	2.8	2.4	2.2	1.9	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.1	ς	2.6	2.4	2.2	3.1	2.9	2.5	2.2
Age at 1st Calving - Months	26.9	25.6	24.6	24	26.9	25.5	24.6	23.8	27.1	25.7	24.4	23.7	28.4	26.7	25	24.4
Calving Interval - Months	14.4	13.7	13.3	13	14.1	13.5	13	12.7	14.5	13.7	13.3	13	15.1	13.9	13.2	12.8
% of herd in 3+ Lactation	29.4	33.9	39.6	44.8	30.7	35.1	39.7	44.2	31.2	35.1	38.5	41.7	29.4	34	39.1	44.8
Efficiency - % of herd in mil	k 85.1	86.9	88.4	89.8	81.8	85.2	87.5	89.3	79.6	83.8	87	89.3	80.5	84.5	87	89
Turnover - % of herd remov	ed 46.3	39.3	32.1	24.3	47.4	39.6	33	27.1	47.1	39.1	31	25.2	44.3	38	29.4	22
Days Dry	73	65	59	53	81	69	60	54	95	75	64	58	95	74	64	55
Days to 1st Breeding	103	63	82	76	95	82	73	68	86	82	76	69	104	86	11	70
	HOW PERC be the	CENTILES WO	JRK: If all the herd that is b	e herds (anim etter than 75	als could be % of all the c	substituted	for herds) w The 99th per	ere arrangeo centile value	l in order fro is that whic	m lowest to h is better th	nighest, the7 an 99% of al	5th percenti I the other h	le would erds.			



LOOKING FORWARD

Prudent use of antibiotics in our dairy herds — a call to action

Dr. David Kelton, Research Chair in Dairy Cattle Health, University of Guelph

The time for debating who is responsible for the problem is over. Antibiotic resistance is a problem we'll need to solve together and the time for agriculture to act is now.

The recent discovery of multi-drug resistant Salmonella dublin in dairy and veal herds in Quebec and Ontario, while in only a few herds, has brought us face to face with antibiotic resistance. This is a pathogen for which no antibiotics will work. It forces us to reflect on antibiotic use and what the ramifications of antibiotic resistance might be for dairy production in Canada.

All antibiotic use in animals and people is under examination. While most of the resistance problem is related to the use of antibiotics to treat people, significant attention will continue to be focused on agriculture because of the volume of antibiotic used. Provincial, national and international policy makers consider agricultural use of antibiotics the 'low hanging fruit', and will continue to pressure for reduction in antibiotic use in animal production. Bacteria don't recognize boundaries, be they political, geographical or species, so the pressure will impact on all animal production, across all jurisdictions. The time for debating who is responsible for the problem is over. Antibiotic resistance is a problem we'll need to solve together and the time for agriculture to act is now.

Many European countries have used aggressive goals to reduce antibiotic use in livestock including dairy. In the Netherlands societal pressure resulted in the imposition of regulations to decrease antibiotic use by 50% in 5 years, starting in 2009.Not only were these targets met, recent reports indicate that by focusing more on disease prevention (including selective dry-cow therapy), dairy reduced antibiotic use and maintained high milk quality standards. Having witnessed the success of this approach our own policy makers may want similar initiatives here. To retain the right to use To retain the right to use antibiotics to treat diseases in dairy cattle, we must embrace and document prudent antibiotic use.

antibiotics to treat diseases in dairy cattle we must embrace and document prudent antibiotic use.

Prudent is defined as 'having or showing careful good judgment'. In the context of antibiotic use, prudent means adherence to policies and regulation, rational or justified antibiotic use, and avoidance of practices that increase resistance.

The Canadian Quality Milk (CQM) program, the cornerstone of DFC's proAction initiative, was designed to show consumers that Canadian dairy farmers utilize Best Practices to produce safe milk and meat. CQM treatment records are audited and failure to meet CQM standards results in monetary penalties. While most dairy producers are compliant with the recordkeeping requirement, our research team's recent review of CQM records identified a number of deficiencies and inconsistencies. The diligent, careful and CONSISTENT recording of antibiotic use is critical to justify our use of antibiotics. Good record-keeping is essential to demonstrate prudent antibiotic use.

Justified use means using the appropriate treatment for the target disease. Whenever an antibiotic

treatment is used we apply pressure to a broad bacterial population - the ones we want to treat for but also to all other bacteria present in the animal at the same time. This contributes to the development of resistance. To stop resistance or even reverse it, reducing overall antibiotic use is paramount. Since most antibiotic use on dairy farms is for mastitis, accurately identifying mastitis bacteria is essential to justify antibiotic treatment. Many mastitis pathogens do not respond to antibiotic treatment or will self-cure. Cases unlikely to respond, because of the type of bacteria, preceding treatment failures or long duration simply should not receive antibiotic.

Utilizing practices to prevent mastitis reduces antibiotic use. In the recent National Dairy Study we assessed mastitis prevention procedures on Canadian dairy farms. While over 97% of dairy producers used post-milking teat disinfection, only 88% used a clean towel to prep each cow. Less than 60% regularly wore and disinfected gloves during milking. This suggests there are plenty of opportunities to fine-tune our mastitis prevention practices.

In veterinary medicine we often fail to monitor our treatment outcomes. How often do we record whether a treated cow or calf actually got better? We could use CQM treatment records to do this and identify treatment protocols which simply are not working. Systems such as Dairy Comp 305 can help with decision making. Eliminating ineffective protocols will further decrease antibiotic use.

The debate over what causes resistance has become less relevant. We must start the process of targeting our treatments and documenting our antibiotic use so that we can fully adopt prudent use. If we don't do this, then policy makers will impose regulations that may not be to our liking. Let's be proactive...let's take action now.