

DAIRYQUEST NEWS

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RFID Update

By Lee Mc Cauley

RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) has been a buzz word in agriculture for the past few years. Identifying cattle is a great fit for its use.

Do you know who is fast becoming the largest user of RFID? It's no one in agriculture. It's Wal-Mart.

Wal-Mart is using RFID to identify merchandise as it is moved from warehouse to warehouse. It will be a few years, but they are slowing converting each warehouse and store over to RFID.

What does this mean for agriculture? As large companies utilize RFID the technology moves at a fast pace. It may be hard to believe what will come next.

Tablet PC Update



In our April newsletter, we announced a new addition to our product line: The xTablet T8600. This is a rugged computer that can be used in the cold, rain and has a drop rating of 3 feet on concrete. This computer can run any application that you have on your desktop PC.

We have a demo available for you to try out. You

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The chips used for RFID are in the tech world, are rather large. They also require a good deal of battery strength to read them.

The RFID chip makers have recently come to an agreement with a company that makes very small chips and uses very little power.

What may become of this? Wrist watches with RFID that need to have their batteries changed only once a year. Toy dolls with RFID chips that do animation on voice command.

If only they could invent a chip to place in our children so they would listen to us.

may use the demo for 20 days at no charge. If you are interested, please contact us at 888-597-2977.

Due to the response we have received, the demo unit is not always available. Call today to ensure your spot to give it a try.

We are currently working on a DairyQuest application designed specifically for a Tablet PC. We hope to have it available by this fall.

For more information on the Tablet PC, please visit our website www.dairyquest.com.

Auto Save on Exit

There is a feature in DairyQuest that you may not be aware of. It is called "Auto Save on Exit". What does this thing do?

Whenever you exit DairyQuest, your data files will be copied to a folder on your hard drive. This does not replace backing up your data. However, it is another means to recover your data in case your tables become damaged.

The Auto Save on Exit feature will keep up to 5 different datasets at any given time. For example, if you exit DairyQuest 5 times in one day, it will have 5 different datasets saved. After the 5th time, it overwrites the oldest dataset.

DairyQuest Training CD

Have you hired a new person to take over recording data in DairyQuest? Do you wish you could take more advantage of some of the features that DairyQuest offers?

We have recently completed a training video/audio CD for DairyQuest. This can be used to help train your new hire the basics of DairyQuest and also help those who need more hands on training to learn how to use DairyQuest.

The CD offers you the convenience of learning at your own pace and at a time that is convenient to you. The CD works in any CD-ROM in a computer. Make sure that you have your speakers turned on!

Here are the topics that the CD contains:

*I like my new telephone, my
computer works just fine, my
calculator is perfect, but Lord, I
miss my mind! ~Author
Unknown*

So what does all of this mean? If your power goes off or you have a power surge while DairyQuest is up and running, you risk damaging your data.

If you have Auto Save on Exit enabled and your data becomes damaged, you simply select File| Recover Data Files from the main menu. You can then select data based upon the last time the data was edited. This has already saved a few people.

To enable Auto Save on Exit, select Preferences| Miscellaneous from the main menu. Check the Auto Save on Exit box and click save. It could save you a lot of grief.

- Getting Started with DairyQuest
- Data Entry and Navigation
- Custom Reports
- Importing Milk Weights
- Preferences
- Scheduling Events
- Standard Reports
- Using Help in DairyQuest

The CD sells for \$49.95 and comes with a 30 day money back guarantee.

The CD was designed due to customer feedback. We greatly appreciate this and hope that you continue to be a valuable resource to us.

DairyQuest Tips

Don't like using a handheld computer to record Vet Checks? Are you currently recording Vet Check Events individually for each cow? Are you getting sick of the amount of time it takes to record a Vet Check?

We have a solution. Select Animals|Vet Check Results Manager from the main menu. From here you will be able to quickly and accurately record Vet Check Events.

Enter the date of the Vet Check and click the "Build Animal List" button. The animals that appear are the same animals that appear on the Vet Check Report. They will also be listed in the same order that you have printed the Vet Check Report. Since the animals listed here are the same as those on the Vet Check Report, recording the results of the Vet Check

New Addition to Filtering Animals

From customer feedback (Thanks Joe G!) we have added a new feature to filtering animals.

First of all, filtering animals allows you to look at a smaller number of animals while doing data entry. There are many ways in which to filter, but we are only going to discuss the new feature that has been added.

Have you ever had someone incorrectly ID an animal and you recorded the incorrect ID in DairyQuest? We've now made it easier to find the animal.

Click on the Filter Icon in DairyQuest.

Extended Support Hours

We have extended our support hours for your convenience. If you need emergency support after 5 PM Weekdays and on Weekends, feel free to call 715-805-6000. If you receive voice mail, please leave your name and number and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

We hope that you appreciate this added service.

becomes much easier.

Click in the result column for the first cow. Select the correct result and press enter. Enter a comment if you want. Press enter again. The "Checked" column allows you to tell DairyQuest if an animal was vet checked or not. If the animal was not checked, uncheck this box.

Repeat this for each animal. It doesn't get much easier.

When you are finished, click the "Post" button. If you need additional help, click the "Help" button.

This will certainly shorten the amount of time that it takes to record the results of a vet check.



In the filter screen select the following options:

Animal ID Search

Contains

From this example, when you click the "Enable Filter" button, all animals that have an ID that contains 12 will appear. 12,121,412,6012 are examples.

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