

DAIRYQUEST NEWS

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Welcome to DairyQuest News

By Lee Mc Cauley

We welcome everyone to DairyQuest News, your information source to the latest DairyQuest developments. We have made many changes and improvements in the last year and want to provide a better means in keeping you informed of those changes.

As the dairy industry continues to evolve and change, so does DairyQuest. Things like RFID, consumer perception and technology have had a great impact on our industry.

It is an exciting time for all of us as things seem to change right before our eyes. We continue to move forward as technology moves us to a different level.

Information overload is a great concern among

Summary Reports

By Lee Mc Cauley

Have you been looking for an easy way to evaluate herd performance in reproduction, calving, culling, etc.? You have spoken and we have listened.

Click Reports|Summary Reports from the main menu to access the new Summary Reports.

AI Reproductive Summary – This report evaluates Conception Rate, Services per Conception, Average Days Open and much more.

Bull String Summary – This report is useful to evaluate bull breedings that occur in a specific string/pen.

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producers and also among us at DairyQuest. It is becoming increasingly more difficult to determine what information is valuable and what should be tossed aside.

As we begin the New Year, one of our goals is to help you in making informative decisions for your operation. Feel free to let us know how we are doing.

We hope that you and your family had a safe and happy holiday season. We look forward to working with you as the New Year begins.

Calving Barn Summary – This report evaluates the freshenings that take place in a specific string/pen.

Cull Summary – This report evaluates the reasons you culled an animal.

Fresh Cow Reproductive Summary – This evaluates the first Vet Check on a fresh cow.

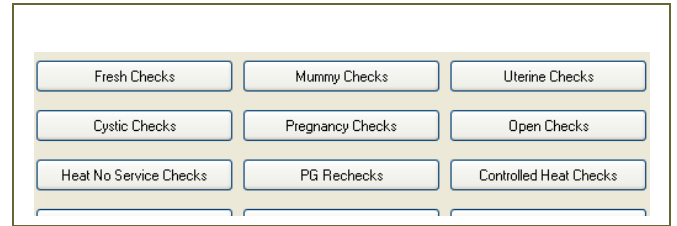
Hospital Summary – This report evaluates each treatment type and also evaluates the number of times a treatment occurred in a string/pen.

Scheduling Events

The heart and soul of DairyQuest has always been its ability to schedule events. Scheduled events are events that may or may not occur in the future of an animal.

DairyQuest attempts to properly predict what type of an event may occur of an animal when you record an event that has occurred. For example, when you record a breeding, DairyQuest can create a scheduled PG Check, a scheduled Dry Off and scheduled Freshening Event.

It is now much easier to determine how to setup your scheduling of events. If you select



Preferences|Schedule Vet Checks from the main menu, you will find a series of buttons that guide you to the type of Scheduled Event you want to create. Upon clicking a button, you will be guided on how to setup a schedule on your animals.

National ID/RFID Update

It looks like the National ID program is a dead issue. The USDA has announced that the program is completely voluntary. It is not mandatory.

However, the consumer wants to feel at ease when it comes to early detection of a problem in our food chain. We do need to be concerned about that.

One means of addressing this is the use of RFID tags. This gives you a fast, reliable means to identify an animal and her offspring.

“Once a new technology rolls over you, if you’re not part of the steamroller, you’re part of the road.”

RFID tags contain a computer chip that can be read with a reading device. The reading device can then send a signal to a computer. A software program such as DairyQuest can then locate the animal and allow you to view and record data.

Our HandLink program works with a PALM handheld computer. It is RFID ready.

We are currently working on a version of DairyQuest that will work with a Tablet PC. This Mobile Version of DairyQuest will utilize RFID and offer the ability of full computing power of a desktop computer.

The Tablet PC will be completely weatherized and utilize touch screen functionality. If you are interested and/or have questions, please contact us at ProfitSource.

DairyQuest Tips

Have you ever been in DairyQuest and wish you could perform a task while in a certain section? Your wish may have already become reality.

The right button mouse click can sometimes provide you with a means to perform a different task while doing another. For an example:

Have you ever wanted to print the life history of a cow while recording events? It's simple to do.

Take your mouse and perform a right mouse click on the cow in the animal list. When you do this a menu will appear.

From the menu, you can do the following tasks:

1. Print a Lactation graph
2. Print the Biography of the cow
3. Print the Events of the cow
4. Add this cow to a holding pen
5. View a holding pen (We will review holding pens in

"My recipe for dealing with anger and frustration: set the kitchen timer for 20 minutes, dry, rant and rave, and at the sound of the bell, simmer down and go about business as usual."

Phyllis Diller

a future article)

6. Add a scheduled event (Useful to schedule a Vet Check on a cow who is not scheduled for one)
- Refresh Status/Schedule – This is useful if you change how Vet Checks are scheduled. You can then update the schedule on individual cows.
7. Refresh Standard Milk Tests. If you edit milk tests you may have to refresh the animal's production totals for that lactation.
8. Refresh Ex305/LTD Totals. If you edit Dry Off Events, Fresh Events, or Abortions, you may have to run this to update the animal's LTD Totals

Up Coming in DairyQuest

As agriculture and technology changes, here at DairyQuest we constantly need our customer feedback and suggestions.

One of the main concerns of producers seems to be the amount of time that one spends in recording data. We have looked strongly at this problem and feel we have a good solution.

Capturing information when an event actually occurs is of interest to many. Currently, you can use a PALM handheld to do this. However, a handheld computer has many limitations.

We will shortly be offering a rugged Tablet PC that

has the full computing power of a Desktop PC. It will be able to handle harsh weather conditions and have a drop rating on concrete.

Along with the Tablet PC we will also be offering a software program called DairyQuest Mobile. This version of DairyQuest will take advantage of the touch screen capabilities of a Tablet PC.

We will notify you as soon as these products are available.

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We're on the Web!

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