

# HEIFERPRO NEWS

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## Welcome to HeiferPRO News

By Lee Mc Cauley

We welcome everyone to HeiferPRO News, your information source to the latest HeiferPRO 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 HeiferPRO. 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

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producers and also among us at HeiferPRO. 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.

## Keeping your Customers Informed

Your customers likely want to be informed of animal health/growth during the animal's stay on your operation.

There are a number of ways that this can be done. First, there are numerous reports that reflect animal health, status and growth.

Under Reports|Analysis Reports you may select predefined reports that reflect: Breeding, Health, Reproduction, Weights, Feed Costs, Vaccinations and Inventory.

Another avenue that you may not be as familiar with is the Dairy Version of HeiferPRO.

HeiferPRO Dairy is very similar to HeiferPRO. It is designed for your customers. It gives them the ability to evaluate just their animals using HeiferPRO. It does not give them the ability to record any data.

Of course, your customer will need a backup of your data. A special backup just for the Dairy Version can be created under File|Create Backup for Dairy Version. This will create a backup of a single customer's animals.

For more information contact ProfitSource at 888-597-2977.

## Locating Financial Discrepancies

Have you ever had a situation where you just couldn't understand why a statement showed a credit or debit amount? You just couldn't determine why or how this could be? You knew that the customer was current, but showed a balance other than zero?

There are two steps to follow that will guide you in finding the problem. Account reports and browsing account activity.

Under Reports|Accounts Reports you will find reports to view Payment History, Open Payments (Payments that you have recorded, but not applied

to an invoice), Transaction History and more. All of these reports can lead you in discovering where the error is.

By selecting Accounts|Browse Account Activity you can select a customer and view every type of financial transaction that you have recorded. You may also see that you may not have recorded a payment on a customer.

By double clicking on the transaction, HeiferPRO will allow you to view/edit the transaction.

## 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.

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

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 HeiferPRO 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 also have available a version of HeiferPRO that will work with a Tablet PC. This Mobile Version of HeiferPRO utilizes RFID and offers the ability of full computing power of a desktop computer.

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

*"Once a new technology rolls over you, if you're not part of the steamroller, you're part of the road."*

## HeiferPRO Tips

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

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

Have you ever wanted to print the life history of a heifer from the main screen of HeiferPRO? It's simple to do.

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

From the menu, you can print the life history of the heifer.

Another thing that comes up from time to time is wishing that you could change the status bar located on the bottom of the main screen. This can be done!

*"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."*

*Phylliss Diller*

Select Preferences|Status Bar Settings from the main menu.

From here you can change what items appear on the status bar and the order that they appear. You may also increase/decrease the width of each column.

If you do not understand how to use this feature, simply click on the Help Icon. This will bring up the detailed help section telling you how to make the changes to the status bar settings.

## Up Coming in HeiferPRO

As agriculture and technology changes, here at HeiferPRO 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.

HeiferPRO Mobile will likely be the program of choice to use on a Tablet PC. This version of HeiferPRO takes advantage of the touch screen capabilities of a Tablet PC.

We will notify you as soon as the Tablet PC is available.

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*We're on the Web!*

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