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GEORGIA DAIRYFAX

http://www.ads.uga.edu/extension/newsletters.html **July August September 2016**

Dear Dairy Producers:

The enclosed information was prepared by the University of Georgia Animal and Dairy Science faculty in Dairy Extension, Research & Teaching. We trust this information will be helpful to dairy farmers and dairy related businesses for continued improvement of the Georgia Dairy Industry.

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Sincerely,

Sha Tao

Sha Tao
Assistant Professor

County Extension Director or County Agent

Herd it through the bovine

Youth Corner

Dr. Jillian Bohlen

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Congratulations to the young people selected to serve as Georgia delegates to the 2016 National 4-H Dairy Conference!

This year Georgia 4-H had a number of tremendous applicants to serve as delegates to the National 4-H Dairy Conference. So many of these young people are already doing tremendous things in and for the dairy industry. Georgia 4-H (agents, parents, volunteers, producers) should be proud of the young people they are developing to serve in the realm of agriculture. This year, we are fortunate to have money available to fund three young people to attend that National 4-H Dairy Conference to be held in conjunction with World Dairy Expo this coming October. The three selected delegates are Madeline Hillebrand (Coweta 4-H), Mikey Ivy (Morgan 4-H), and Hunter Swartz (Coweta 4-H). Caitlin Bennett of Banks County 4-H will serve as adult chaperone and accompany them on this tremendous trip. Big CONGRATULATIONS to these young people. Make Georgia proud!!!

Upcoming Important Dates

GA National Fair Commercial Dairy Heifer Show

- Weigh in / Check in on Saturday, October 8th from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- Showing on October 9th (begins at 9:00 AM with showmanship, weight classes immediately following)

GA National Fairy Open/Junior Purebred Shows

- Barn entry beginning Wednesday, October 12th at 9:00 AM
- Brown Swiss and Guernsey showing Saturday, October 15th beginning at 6 PM
- Junior Showmanship Sunday, October 16th at 9:00 AM
- Jersey and Holstein showing Sunday, October 16th beginning at noon

Entries due for Commercial Dairy Heifer Project

- Heifers must be born between March 1 and September 30, 2016
- Heifers must be in the possession of the exhibitor on or before November 15th
- Entry deadline of November 15th (online)
- Order ear tags by November 8th if wanting them shipped

- For more information, visit:
http://georgia4h.org/livestock/GaJrLivestockShow/ga_jr_entryforms.htm

All things dairy at UGA

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Dairy Dawgs Take on Salt Lake City

On Sunday, July 17th, five dairy science majors, one recent graduate of with a dairy science masters, and Dr. Jillian Bohlen ventured to Salt Lake City, Utah for the American Dairy Science Association Student Affiliate Division (ADSA-SAD) meetings. This meeting is held in conjunction with the American Dairy Science Association and American Society of Animal Science meetings, which bring in over 3,000 attendees.

With the success of the UGA Dairy program growing, this year's trip was trickier than usual to coordinate. One student is in New York interning on a large dairy operation and working closely with the farm's nutritionist, one student is back in Pennsylvania helping with the family farm, one student is in Michigan on an internship with Alta Genetics, one was in Virginia working with Cooperative Extension, and the last is holding down the fort at the UGA Teaching Dairy in Athens. Though the travel may have been tricky, the trip was well worth it!

Once everyone made it safely to Salt Lake City, the learning, competing, and networking began! On Monday, the students visited Bateman's Mosida Farms where they are milking approximately 7,000 in the desert just outside of Salt Lake City. This progressive, family run farm is working on growing even larger to allow for the next generation to return to the farm. Milking in two double 40 parallel parlors with over 1,000 calves on bottles, the farm was focused on animal comfort and cleanliness. In addition, they were not afraid to dive into new ventures, which currently included a calving barn with heated floors and a new solar field that would go online by end of summer to offset energy expenditures. Continuing with the theme of taking leaps in hopes of big rewards, the students were next off to the Utah Olympic Park for some time to explore activities of the winter games.

Tuesday was a much anticipated day…quiz bowl! This is the day that groups spend many hours preparing and practicing for in an effort to prove their school's worth in head to head competitions of dairy knowledge. Morning testing, decided where schools were seeded in the initial brackets. The team from UGA, comprised of Sarah Jane Thomsen, Nathan Webb, Kayla Alward, and Mary Wright, were rewarded for high test scores with a bye in the first round. With 11 schools representing some of the nation's finest in dairy students, they knew they were in for a long day. The most exciting match of the day was between UGA and Cornell. After an intense round, the team from UGA won to push Cornell from the competition. With a loss to Virginia Tech, UGA ended up fourth in the quiz bowl competition. This left the top four teams nationally (presented here in order) Penn State, Cal Poly, Virginia Tech, and UGA.

Wednesday was a day of business meetings and presentations. Lily Masa highlighted the UGA Commercial Dairy Heifer Show in the activity symposium. Then students made the following presentations to audiences comprised of their peers, academicians, industry personnel, and general dairy enthusiasts from around the world.

- *Influence of a BRDC vaccine with a MLV or KV IBR component on estrous cycle parameters and anti-müllerian hormone concentration in nulliparous heifers.* **C. Lark Widener**, David J. Hurley, William M. Graves, Andra H. Nelson, Daniela A. L. Lourenco and Jillian F. Bohlen.

- *Impact of a BRDC vaccine with a MLV or KV IBR component on the innate inflammatory profile of nulliparous heifers.* **C. Lark Widener**, David J. Hurley, William M. Graves, Andra H. Nelson, Daniela A. L. Lourenco and Jillian F. Bohlen.

- *Assessing the correlation between teat end scores and presence of mastitis in lactating Holstein cows.* **Kayla J. Alward**, Jillian F. Bohlen, Lane O. Ely and Stephen C. Nickerson.

- *A future for genomics in animal health through the Bovine Respiratory Disease Complex: Coordinated Agricultural Project.* **Sarah J. Thomsen** and Jillian F. Bohlen, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

The final day of the meeting was held aside for national officer elections and the awards banquet. Again this year, the UGA group walked away proud of their accomplishments, which are outlined below.

- Kayla Alward WON the national undergraduate research competition!!! She was recognized during the American Dairy Science Association Awards Program.

- Kayla Alward was elected First Vice President to the National ADSA-SAD organization.

- UGA Dairy Science club activities and the scope of what the club does was made noteworthy in the annual report scoring.

- The UGA Dairy Quiz Bowl Team was named 4th high nationally.

- Kayla Alward, Mary Wright, and Sarah Jane Thomsen were recognized for high academic scholarship in Dairy Science.

- Dr. Jillian Bohlen was named 2nd year advisor to the national ADSA-SAD organization.

- Dr. Jillian Bohlen was elected as the Southern American Dairy Science Association Secretary.

- Dr. Jillian Bohlen was nominated and accepted to serve on the Genevieve Christen Distinguished Undergraduate Student Award Committee, which recognizes the top dairy science student in the nation.

The trip home was made Friday, July 22nd! This group as well as the UGA Dairy Science Club as a whole would like to thank the Georgia Dairy Youth Foundation, Milk Check-Off, and the Animal and Dairy Science Department at UGA for helping support them on this trip. Look for more great happenings from the Dairy Dawgs this Fall.

Image: *The delegation from Georgia in the calving barn at Bateman's Farm. L to R: Lark Widener, Nathan Webb, Mary Wright, Kayla Alward, Lily Masa, Sarah Jane Thomsen, and Dr. Jillian Bohlen.*

Image: *The UGA Dairy Quiz Bowl Team*

Renovations Start at the UGA Teaching Dairy

This is a tremendously exciting time for the faculty, staff, and students alike in UGA's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences!! On Monday, August 22nd, 2016 the dairy farm began a renovation of its classroom, office, and laboratory facilities. This project has been a long time in the making and one that everyone is extremely excited about.

The dairy farm has been a staple to the undergraduate curriculum in the Animal and Dairy Science Department at UGA. This farm has offered coursework and animal numbers to make sure every introductory student gets to work with/put their hands on live animals during their first year in the department. Beyond this, the farm has served as a hub for research at UGA involving dairy cattle to include studies in mastitis, nutrition, and reproduction among others. Finally, the farm is open to the public, which means they are frequented by those that just want to see a cow milked to young people in 4-H looking for a group of cows to practice judging.

Beyond that, the farm has served as a point of student pride and importance in student development. This author can remember the days of protesting its closure at the arch in 2003, to completing her master's research project on this farm, to now developing the interest in new UGA recruits in dairy production and management. This farm and the animals it houses are important…important to faculty, staff, students, and the community at large.

The fact that this investment into its future is finally happening is a monumental day to be marked. This gives hope that this staple part of UGA will remain intact for generations to come and will continue to serve as a critical point of development for many undergraduates in Animal and Dairy Science's department. There is hope that this renewed interest in the farm and the sprucing up of it's 1970's image will promote more foot traffic by our fellow dairy producers as well as the community wishing to learn about agriculture in GA. The new facility will boast an up to date classroom space, a usable office for farm staff, a laboratory space for researchers, a laboratory space for farm needs, a common area for farm employees, and a foyer to greet guests as well as display historical and present day information regarding the farm for visitors.

Thanks to all that support the dairy farm, the dairy science program, and the students of UGA. A special thanks to those that worked so diligently throughout the years to make this day happen to create a learning environment that the state can be proud of! For pictures of "the way things were" and to keep updated on the renovation progress, please visit the UGA Dairy On blog at http://blog.extension.uga.edu/dairy/.

What's the best method for drying cows off?

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The method by which cows are dried off may affect the incidence of new udder infections. Basic methods of drying off include the following: (1) "Abrupt cessation" of milking in which cows are milked for a 305-day lactation, after which milking is abruptly terminated, all quarters are infused with dry cow therapy and/or a teat sealant, and cows are placed in a far-off pasture and fed a dry cow ration; and (2) "Intermittent milking" in which cows are milked for about 291-298 days (1-2 wk prior to the official dry-off date), and for last 1-2 wk of lactation, concentrate is eliminated and cows are fed hay only. Some advisors suggest limiting water intake, but this is not a good practice as water is probably the most important nutrient in a cow's diet. During these last 1-2 wk of lactation, cows are milked intermittently, e.g., once a day, then infused with dry cow therapy and/or a teat sealant, and placed in a far-off pasture and fed a dry cow ration. Or instead of milking once a day, there could be a series of single and double-missed milkings. For example, on days 1 and 2 of the last 1-2 wk of lactation, just do the AM milking only; on day 3: the PM milking only; on day 4: no milking; day 5: the AM milking only; then dry the cow off. Intermittent milking such as this will reduce milk by production 22-47%, helping to accelerate mammary gland involution and decrease new infections at calving.

University studies have looked at the new IMI rate based on method of dry-off as well as at the level of milk production at the time of drying off (Figure 1). In a Tennessee study, cows were either dried off by 1) intermittent milking or by 2) intermittent milking along with a ration change in which cows were fed hay only; all quarters of all cows received dry cow therapy (Figure 1a). Cows assigned to intermittent milking along with a ration change exhibited a 50% reduction in new udder infections compared with a 32% reduction in those assigned to intermittent milking only.

In a Canadian study, cows that were dried off producing greater than 46 lb a day had a higher new IMI rate (26%) than cows dried off producing less than 29 lb (16%) (Figure 1b). The leakage of milk from quarters of cows dried off at the greater production was thought to be the cause for the higher infection rate, as leakage suggested that the teat canal was open to potential bacterial invasion. In fact, research has shown that cows leaking milk following dry-off are 4 times more likely to develop clinical mastitis during the dry period than cows that do not leak.

So, what is better, abrupt cessation or intermittent milking? When used in conjunction with dry cow therapy and reduced energy intake, either method of drying off is suitable, as there is no real difference in the new infection rate. However, among cows not receiving dry cow therapy, one study showed that new infections at calving were more numerous using abrupt cessation of milking, probably because of milk leakage. The practice of intermittent milking combined with feeding only free choice hay during the last week of lactation will increase protective factors in milk, such as leukocytes and antibodies, but the effect on new infection rate is questionable.

Irrespective of the method used for dry-off, the usual recommendation is to treat all four quarters of all cows with an approved nonlactating cow antibiotic formulation and follow that with a teat sealant; however, some disadvantages of this practice exist. For example, dry cow

antibiotic therapy is not always effective in curing existing infections. For example, present formulations are not effective against all species of bacteria, such as coliforms, and they provide no protection against new infections during the late dry period; however, teat sealants do in fact provide protection during this prepartum period. In addition, elimination of common udder pathogens, such as *Staphylococcus* species and *Corynebacterium bovis* via antimicrobial treatment, may render cows more susceptible to less common pathogens such as coliforms. Development of antibiotic resistance is sometimes considered to be a disadvantage; however, routine use of dry cow therapy does not lead to development of resistant mastitis-causing microorganisms.

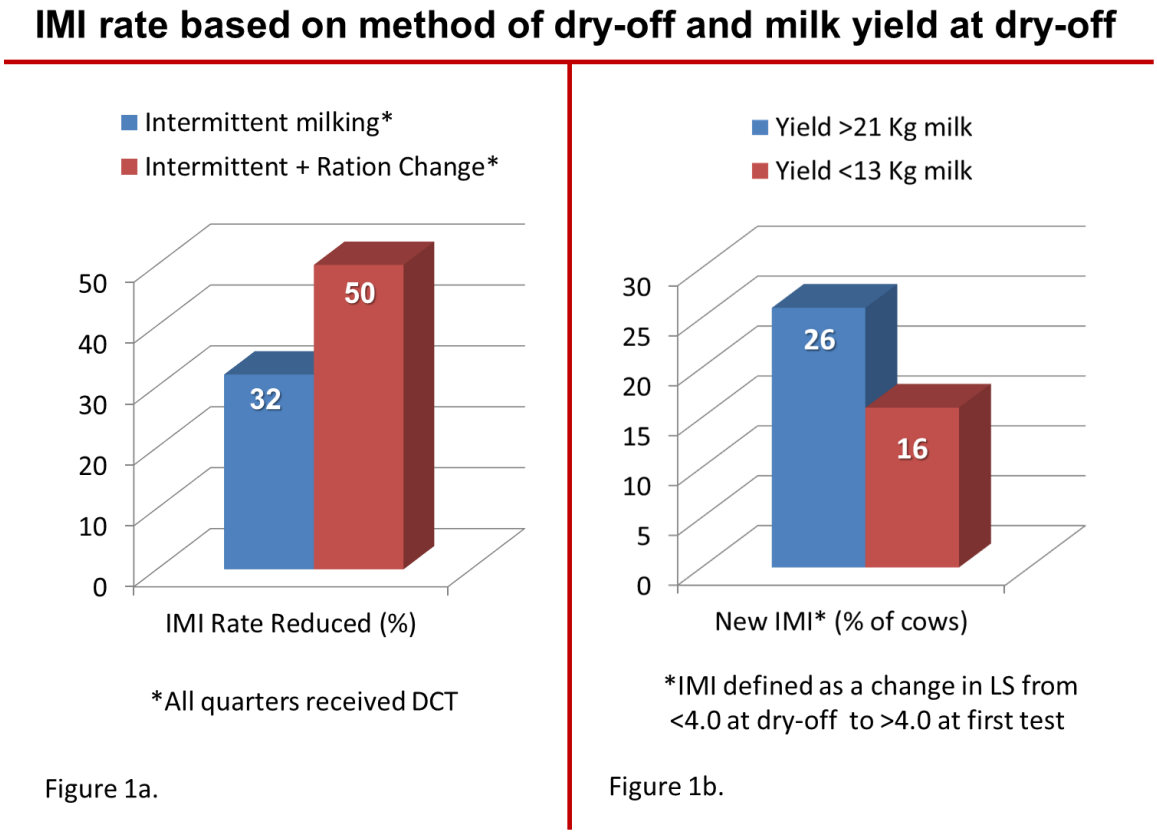

Figure 1. *New intramammary infection (IMI) rate based on dry-off method and milk yield.*

Should you be feeding for component yield in the Southeast?

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Dairy Nutrition and Management

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In contrast with other areas of the US, producers in the Southeast are paid on the basis of skim and fat without any consideration of protein or total solids. Because of this, the primary emphasis has been on milk yield with little emphasis on components other than to avoid depressed milk fat. However, the price of skim has dropped from a high of $29.20 in September, 2014 to $6.85 in June, 2016. In this same time period, the price for milk fat has increased from $1.82 in January, 2014 to $2.51 in July, 2016 with even higher prices pad on other occasions (Figure 1).

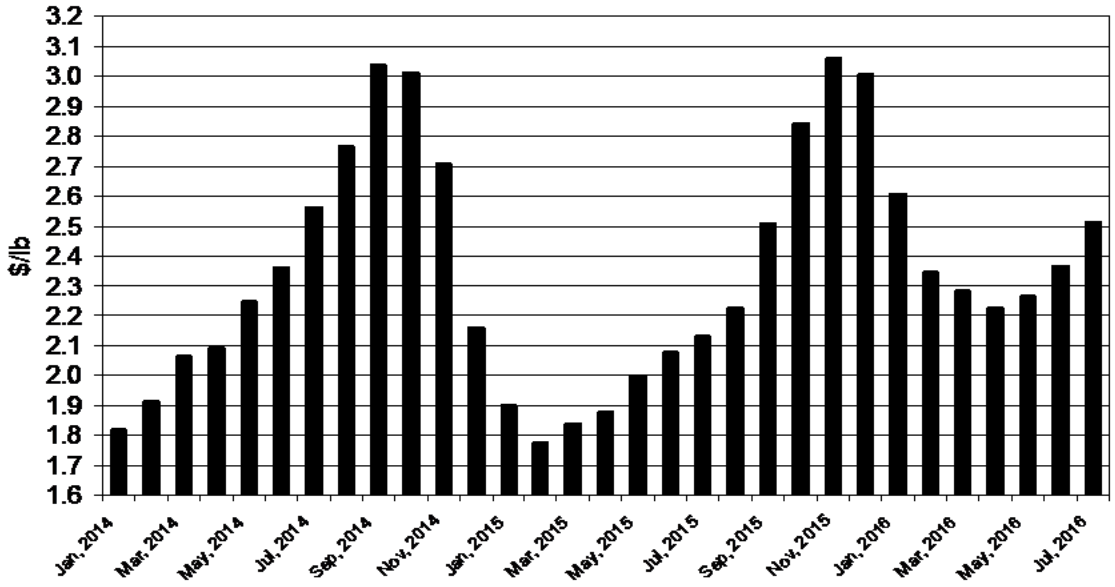

Figure 1. *Milk fat price ($/lb) for milk shipped in the South Georgia Market based on prices received by the Coastal Plain Experiment Station.*

As the value of milk fat increases, the premium (or penalty) for milk fat increases. The effect of a change in milk fat percentage compared with 3.5% at various milk fat prices is outlined in Table 1. The difference in the value (or penalty) of increasing milk fat percentage 0.1 point is greater as the price of milk fat increases. With the lower value of skim milk, it may be more profitable to consider feeding for higher milk fat percentage than in previous years if you are shipping milk with less than 3.5% fat.

Milk fat percentage is influenced by a number of factors including breed (higher for colored breeds such as Jersey), season of the year (decreases in summer), and diet which is compounded by feeding management. There are a number of nutritional factors which can contribute to lower than desired milk fat content. Heavy corn silage based diets, which are common on most dairies, are often difficult to maintain a desired milk fat percentage compared with grass based diets. This may be due to insufficient effective fiber, especially if the cows are sorting against any long

stem fiber added to the diet; too much rapidly fermentable carbohydrate; excess free fatty acids in the diet, especially if byproducts with high fat concentrations are fed; over processing or inadequate mixing of the TMR; as well as other factors including poor cow comfort. Approximately 50% of cows at rest should be ruminating; if the observed rate is lower this is a sign that the rations should be reviewed as well cow comfort to identify potential problems. During heat stress cows will lose more of their natural buffering capacity if the evaporative cooling system is not sufficient or working properly.

If milk fat is lower than desired; work with you nutritionist to evaluate rations and feeding management to identify potential issues. In some cases, the correction may be associated with your feeding management so be sure to evaluate the actual TMR offered to the cow as well as ration formulations.

Table 1. *Effect of changing milk fat percentage and price on premium or penalty compared with milk containing 3.5% fat.*

Change in fat % vs 3.5%	Milk fat price, $/lb			
	$1.75	$2.00	$2.25	$2.50
± 0.10	± 0.168	± 0.193	± 0.218	± 0.243
± 0.20	± 0.336	± 0.386	± 0.436	± 0.486
± 0.30	± 0.504	± 0.579	± 0.654	± 0.729
± 0.40	± 0.672	± 0.772	± 0.872	± 0.972
± 0.50	± 0.840	± 0.965	± 1.009	± 1.215

Engaging the next generation in your operation

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Producers, industry affiliates, and academicians are increasingly aware, whether it be firsthand knowledge or through publication, of the current state of employees and employment on agriculture operations and in the industries that service them. Based on the 2012 census of agriculture, the average age of the U.S. principal farm operator continues to increase with current age at 58.3 years compared with 50.5 years in 1982. Additionally, despite the number of females enrolling in agricultural departments on college campuses, the number of females as principal, second, or third operators continues to decline. As an example of female enrollment numbers, undergraduates in the Animal and Dairy Science department at the University of Georgia are approximately 82% female while the department of Agricultural leadership, Education, and Communications has an enrollment of approximately 71% female. Despite these numbers and similar ones found nationally, over the past five years, farm principal operators in the U.S. that are female has declined by 5.9% with overall females holding farm operator positions (first, second or third) declining by 1.6%. In total, the number of U.S. farmers declined by 3.1% from 2007-2012. Opportunities available in agriculture, however, continue to increase. A report published in 2015 by the USDA titled "USDA: Employment Opportunities for College Graduates in Food, Agriculture, Renewable Natural Resources, and the Environment. United States 2015-2020" indicated that there are nearly 60,000 high skilled, agriculture and agriculture related (food, natural resources, environment) jobs available annually compared with an average of only 35,000 graduates to fill them. The table below gives an idea of the current farm primary operator. They are male, with more than 50% of them having a different primary occupation, and they have been on the farm for more than 10 years. This would indicate that females are not making it to the farm, many cannot generate enough income to sustain a family from farming alone, and that the industry is not recruiting new, young people onto the farm. This last point is reemphasized in the second figure showing the changing age of the American farmer from 2007-2012.

Table 1. *Primary farm operators on farm.*

Primary Farm Operators by Gender, Primary Occupation, and Years on Farm (percent)						
Farm	**Gender**		**Primary Occupation**		**Years on Farm**	
Operator	**Male**	**Female**	**Farm**	**Other**	**<10**	**10+**
Principal	86	14	48	52	22	78

Source: USDA Farm Census of 2012

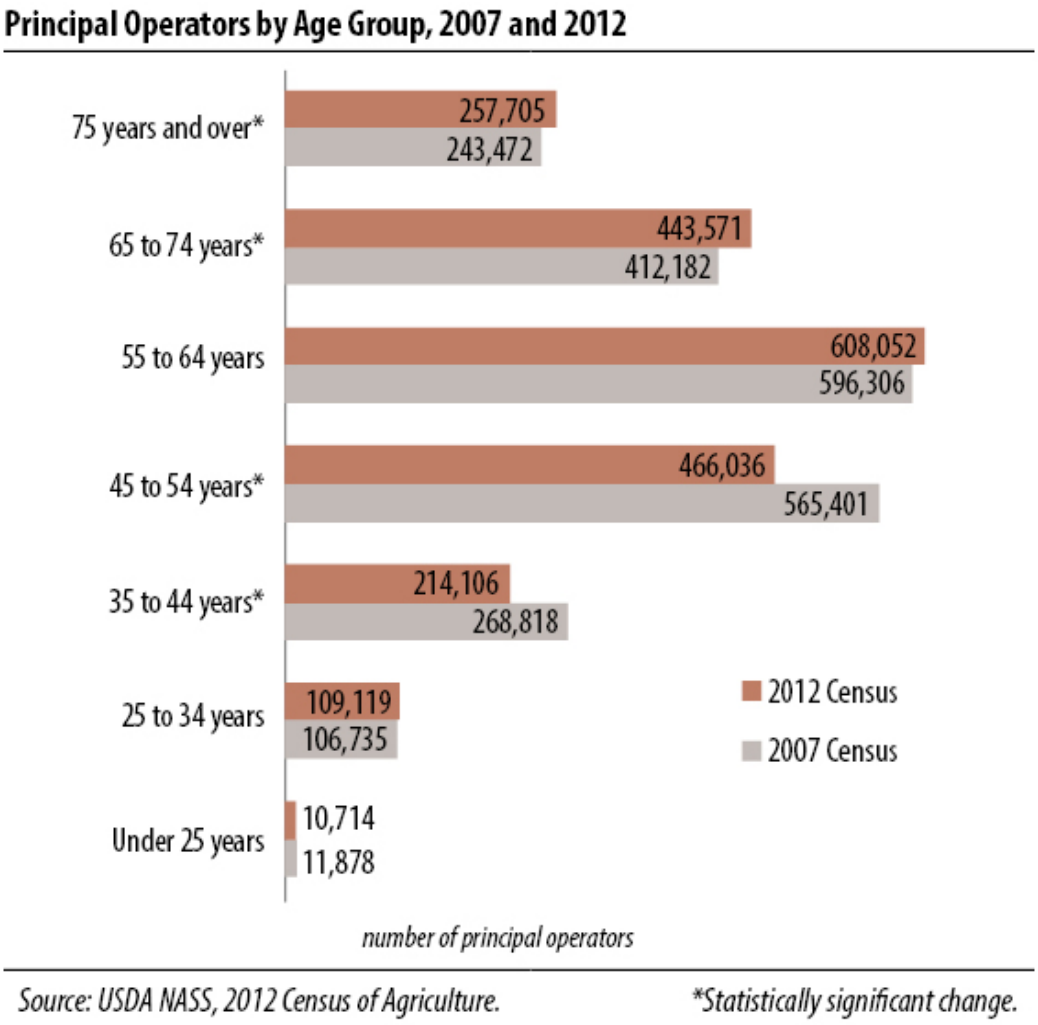

Figure 1. *Principal operators by age, 2007-2012.*

Regardless of age, gender, or race, the industry must begin looking at how they can engage this next generation of young people in their operation. There are the traditional discussions of salary, benefits, location, etc.; however, the following information formulated from observation will focus more on the changing characteristics and needs of this coming generation. Understanding what fulfills them beyond a paycheck will be inherently necessary to put them on and keep them on agriculture units.

This new student wants to be challenged. The mundane chore, task, or responsibility does not engage the mind of this new worker. They are a group that remains highly stimulated by the world around them through technology, social media, and having the world at their smartphone fingertips. Operations must be creative in the way that they pair necessary, often monotonous tasks with those that will engage and challenge their new employees. This could include the exploration of new apps for record keeping/information, cross training on a different portion of the farm, problem solving through records or data, etc.

Though some may see them as the "everyone gets a trophy" generation, they appreciate and thrive through competition. When space is limited, selection is only of a few, or that there is only one opening, they drive themselves harder to be that "one". Encourage movement forward in

your operation of these young people by offering new opportunities but be selective in those that you allow to proceed. This may be offering to send 1-2 employees to a new training or meeting, which may have never been offered before. Or possibly allowing an employee to explore a new technology/practice of interest if they present the most well-defined and economical pilot plan with supporting evidence for management.

Operators should plan to offer "train up" programs. This reality is twofold. First, many of these young people have not had the experiences growing up or collegiately of generations past. This is an unfortunate result of fewer being raised on farming operations (fewer farms and farm operators) and changes to agricultural programming and faculty at many academic institutions. Management must be willing to provide training and make this known to new employees. This will help the newer generation have more assurance in their ability to succeed in this new venture. They are a generation of competitors (as previously mentioned); therefore, the need to see success in their future is inherently important. This is the second reason for offering train up programs. These young people will want to see a future, a chance to advance, and an opportunity to have more influence over the operation in the future. They are not a stagnant generation. They are a group of movers and doers. If farm operations do not provide a clear pathway and opportunity for advancement, they will limit the number of young people willing to take the first step on their operation.

This concept flows into the next, that they are confident generation. Negatives and positives are associated with this confidence. Briefly, the negative is that they often have a level of confidence that outweighs true ability. Operations must exercise diligence in deciphering the difference and offering training/oversight despite their perceived level of aptitude for certain tasks. The positive of this confidence is that they are willing to take on new tasks with zest, they are willing to seek out alternatives, and they tend to always be looking for ways that they can do things better than before or than another person. Hear them. Allow them to explore new concepts, ideas, and to foster this confidence. The worst things an employer can do to this generation or any generation is not hearing their employee's attempts to create or change things on the operation. This creates a "drone" employee and for this new generation, one that will not remain with you long.

These concepts are the bare basics as farming operations look to engage the next generation in their operation as well as support their development on the operation. They are not a cookie cutter generation just like there is no cookie cutter operation. Each of these new employees must have some time spent getting to know them and what makes them successful. Farming operations should be careful not to label them with millennial stereotypes. After all, most of these farm operators were once there themselves. Some may remember what was referred to as the "Generation Gap" between the "Greatest Generation" (pre-World War II) and the Baby Boomers. This difference between the way generations thought, acted, and worked was best depicted during that time in a 1968 Life magazine article (cover below). Generational differences will always exist. The agriculture industry must make a conscious effort to close this generational gap and foster these young people. The reality is that agriculture is unfamiliar to most of them, lacks some "appeal" to this technology driven group, and often confronts their progressive minds with antiquated thoughts of "the way it's always been done". Taking the time to work through the differences and acclimating to some of them will be necessary to engage these young people in agriculture, both on the farm and in the industries that service those farms.

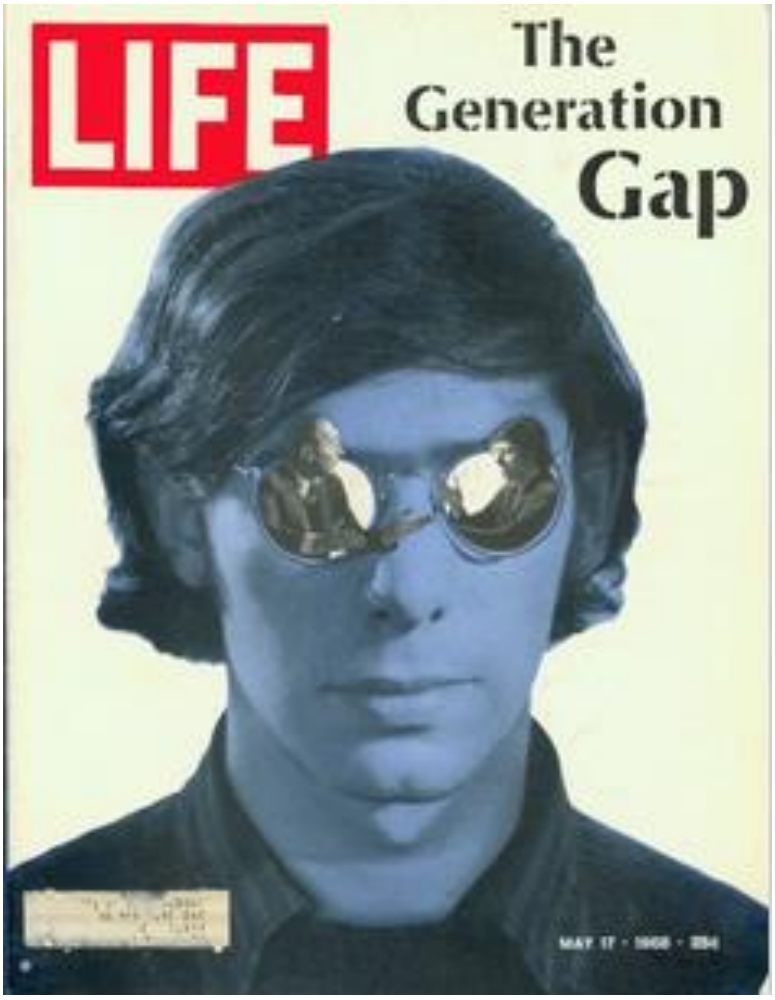

Image: *Life Magazine cover from May 17th, 1968*

In the end, close the gap and adapt to engage this next generation.

Challenge them

Foster a competitive spirit

Be prepared to and voice willingness to train up

Encourage their confidence

Get to know them as individuals

Cooling dry cows is economically beneficial to GA producers

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Geoffrey E. Dahl, Ph.D., Professor and Chair,

Albert De Vries, Ph.D., Associate Professor,

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Recently studies have shown the positive impacts of supplemental cooling during the dry period on cow's subsequent milk production. During summer, compared with cows without cooling, cows that have received evaporative cooling during the dry period produce 9 to 11 lbs/day more milk in the entire next lactation. Further, prepartum cooling increases feed efficiency and improves immune function of the cow in early lactation, and benefits the health and survival of the calf. New evidence also suggests that cooling during late gestation increases the offspring's milk production in their first lactation. However, whether cooling dry cows is economically beneficial to producers has never been calculated. Recently a study at the University of Florida was conducted to calculate the economic feasibility of cooling dry cows over the entire country (Ferreira, Gennari, Dahl, and De Vries, http://dairy.ifas.ufl.edu/dairyupdate/, Vol.16, No.3). From this study, we extracted the data for Georgia to evaluate the economics of cooling dry cows.

In this study, the weather data was extracted from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the number of cows in the state was obtained from USDA-NASS. Several assumptions were made in order to calculate the economics:

1. No seasonal calving was considered and thus there are 15% of cows in the dry period year round;
2. Only multiparous cows were considered in the calculation: the effect of cooling prepartum first calving heifers was not included;
3. Cows were either cooled or not cooled during the **entire** dry period.
4. Only the benefits in the increase in milk production in the next lactation if cows were cooled during their dry period were considered in the calculation;
5. After calving, all cows were cooled;
6. The default milk price was \$20/cwt (5 year average) and the IOFC (Income Over Feed Cost) = \$10.8/lbs of milk.
7. A day with average THI $\geq$ 68 was considered as a heat stress day.
8. Either a dry cow barn was present but no active cooling was installed, or a dry cow barn with active cooling had to be build.

In Georgia, the total number of heat stress days during a year is around 144 days. On average, a cow that is under heat stress during her dry period in Georgia loses 671 kg of milk in her next lactation. Considering the assumptions described before, the average loss per cow in Georgia due to heat stress during the dry period is \$0.91/heat stress day/year if not cooled during the entire

dry period. There are 83,000 cows in GA. Therefore, the annual economic loss due to the decreased milk production by not implementing cooling during the dry period in GA is around: **$10,876,320**=83,000 cows ×144 days of heat stress per year × $0.91.

To reduce the loss by heat stress during the dry period, active cooling needs to be implemented. Thus, the next question is if the investment in cooling dry cows is economically feasible. In order to cool dry cows, a farmer has to either invest in cooling devices or also build a barn if dry cows are housed outside. To evaluate the economics, the net present value (NPV) was used which is the value of the investment in today's dollars compared with the next best alternative for this money assuming which generates a 5% return per year. A NPV > $0 means that the investment in a cooling barn is profitable. The time needed to pay off the initial investment was also calculated. The payback period is the length of time required to recover the initial investment.

We made a sensitivity analysis in order to study the economics of cooling dry cows under different scenarios. We changed the barn cost per stall, milk price and losses in milk yield in the next lactation due to prepartum heat stress and calculated the NPV and payback period for each one of the new scenarios (Figures 1 and 2).

If a new barn to house the dry cows needs to be built, and if we consider a default scenario of milk price equals to $20/cwt, an increase in milk production in the next lactation of 11lbs/day and a barn cost per stall of $2,500, the NPV in GA is $32.41 and the payback period is 4.62 (Figure 1). Clearly, the NPV and payback period are dependent on the milk price, building costs as well as the expected increase in milk production in the next lactation. However, even in a scenario of low milk price, such as now, ($13.2/lbs), the NPV is positive ($2.98), and the payback period is a little bit longer than when compared to the milk price of default scenario (4.62 versus 10.25, respectively), so it is still profitable to invest in cooling dry cows. Remember that the markets are up and down frequently and the decision to invest in a cooling barn is made for many years. In our analysis, the cash flow was considered for 20 years. Our calculation also doesn't include other benefits of cooling dry cows, such as better calf and heifer performance. If dry cows are already housed in an existing barn, and the producer only needs to invest in the cooling equipment (fans and soakers), cooling dry cows will be economically very beneficial. In this scenario, the NPV will be always positive and the payback period will be much shorter than if a new barn needs to be built (Figure 2), even in scenarios of low milk price. Additionally, cooling dry cows will reduce the seasonality of milk production and will help producers obtain the incentives from cooperatives (see the article of Dr. John Bernard in the previous issue of DairyFax).

Therefore, from the data in this study, cooling cows during the entire dry period is clearly beneficial to our GA producers from an economic standpoint.

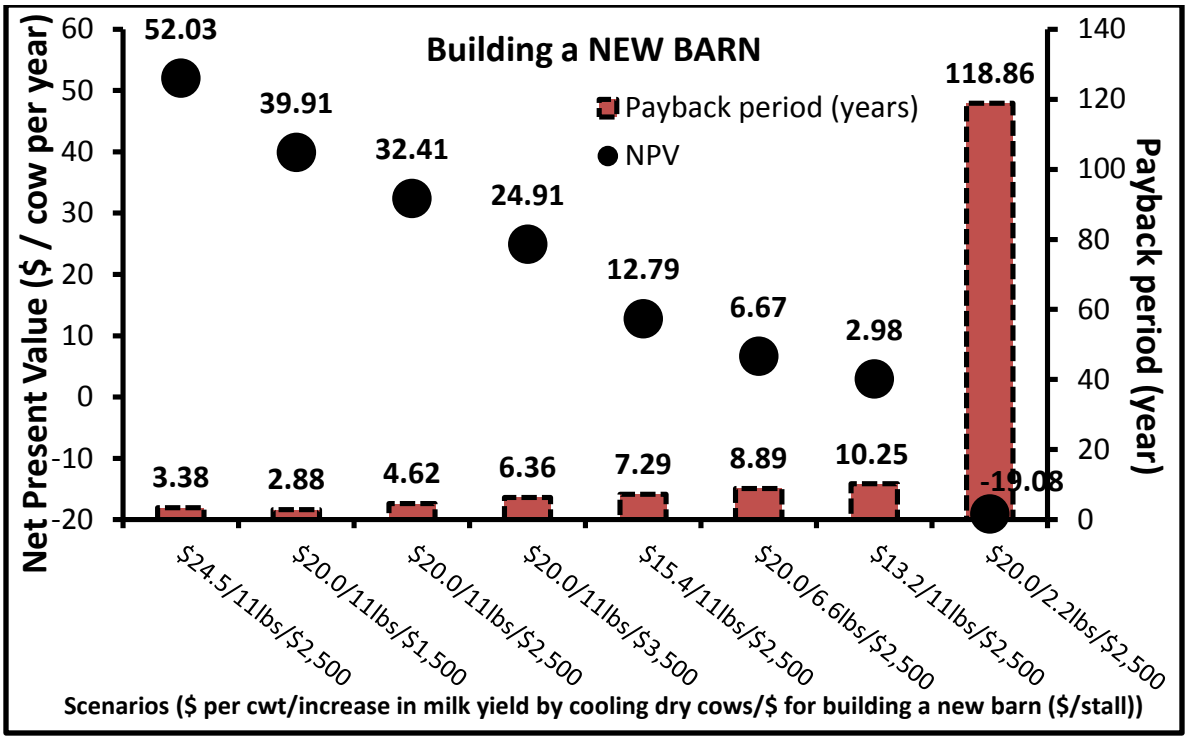

Figure 1. *The net present value (NPV) per cow per year and payback period of cooling dry cows when building a new barn is necessary in different scenarios. A NPV > $0 means the investment is profitable.*

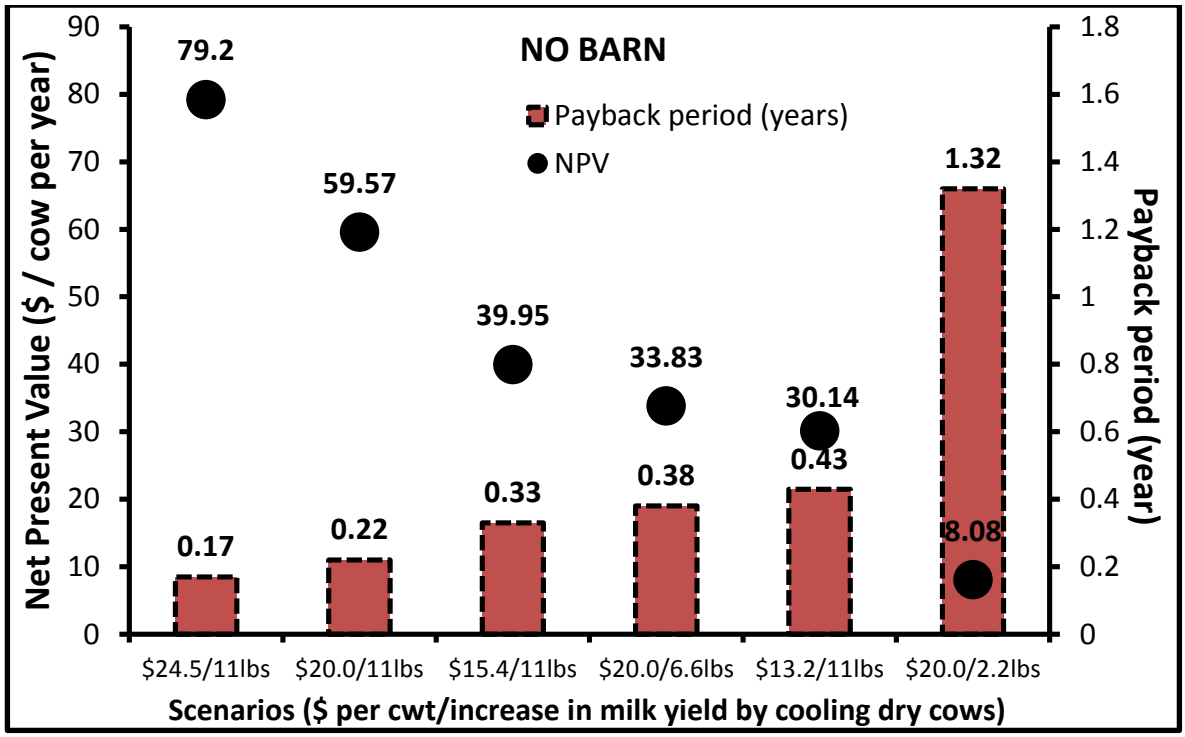

Figure 2. *The net present value (NPV) per cow per year and payback period of cooling dry cows without building a new barn in GA. A NPV > $0 means the investment is profitable.*

4th Annual Southeast Quality Milk Initiative (SQMI) Meeting in Tifton, GA

Stephen C. Nickerson,

Professor

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The 4th Annual Southeast Quality Milk Initiative (SQMI) Meeting will be hosted by the University of Georgia and held at the UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center, Tifton, GA on November 16 – 17, 2016. SQMI is a USDA-NIFA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative funded grant designed to enable dairy farmers to move profitably toward production practices compatible with the concept of a sustainable dairy industry in the Southeast. This program is being developed by milk quality professionals from six Southeast Land-Grant Universities and targets challenged dairy farms and those operations producing superior quality milk as demonstration herds. To accomplish this, we have integrated outreach, education, and research initiatives to improve milk quality and contribute to lower costs and greater revenues on-farm.

Dr. Steve Nickerson and the program committee at the University of Georgia have put together an outstanding program. The first day will be open to dairy producers, Extension personnel, agri-industry representatives and other folks, including yourself and/or a representative. Presentations and workshops will be offered to participants. See meeting brochure and registration form below by clicking the link under Southeast Quality Milk Initiative 4th Annual Meeting on Page 20 under Important Dates.

The SQMI Business Meeting will occur on the second day beginning at 8 am on November 17 and conclude around 3 pm. This part of the meeting is for the SQMI Advisory Committee and will focus on activities of the last year and what the focus of the project will be in the next year.

We hope to see you there!

Important Dates

2016-2017

Georgia National Fair

- Oct 6-16, 2016
- Perry, GA

2016 Sunbelt Expo

- Oct 18-20, 2016
- Moultrie, GA

Southeast Quality Milk Initiative 4th Annual Meeting

- Nov 16-17, 2016
- UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center, Tifton, GA
- http://sequalitymilk.com/4th-annual-meeting-nov-16-17-2016-tifton-ga/

Georgia Dairy Meeting

- January 16-18, 2017
- Savannah, GA
- http://www.gadairyconference.com/?utm_campaign=GMP%2BEnews%2BAug19_16&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Enews%2BSept9_16

Top GA DHIA By Test Day Milk Production – June 2016									
				Test Day Average				Yearly Average	
Herd	County	Br.	[1]Cows	% Days in Milk	Milk	% Fat	TD Fat	Milk	Lbs. Fat
RODGERS' HILLCREST FARMS INC.*	McDuffie	H	438	88	102.3	3.5	3.19	30992	1079
DAVE CLARK*	Morgan	H	1116	88	96.5	3.4	2.93	29396	1051
B&S DAIRY	Wilcox	H	756	87	90.4	3.4	2.65	25248	891
SCOTT GLOVER*	White	H	210	88	89.3	3.5	2.87	26813	984
J.EVERETT WILLIAMS*	Morgan	X	1905	88	87.6	3.7	2.8	26910	1055
EBERLY FAMILY FARM*	Burke	H	759	87	86.1	3.6	2.7	27859	1008
A & J DAIRY*	Wilkes	H	418	91	84.9			28401	
R & D DAIRY*	Laurens	H	371	91	84.7	3.3	2.56	26727	1014
DANNY BELL	Morgan	H	280	90	83.6	3.8	2.64	25924	991
TROY YODER	Macon	H	242	90	79.4	3.7	2.64	24538	958
COASTAL PLAIN EXP STATION	Tift	H	285	88	78.1	3.6	2.29	24458	896
DOUG CHAMBERS	Jones	H	430	89	78	3.3	2.29	25744	855
PHIL HARVEY #2	Putnam	H	1262	90	77	3.8	2.7	26536	886
CHAD DAVIS	Putnam	H	313	91	77	3.2	2.23	22613	768
OCMULGEE DAIRY	Houston	H	327	87	76.2	3.3	2.1	22374	804
HICKORY HEAD DAIRY	Brooks	H	2257	87	75.6	3.6	2.42	22027	735
MARTIN DAIRY L. L. P.	Hart	H	327	91	75	3.4	2.39	24033	881
JERRY SWAFFORD	Putnam	H	193	88	74.4	3.1	1.94	21331	
IRVIN R YODER	Macon	H	189	93	73.8	3.6	2.48	25781	913
AMERICAN DAIRYCO-GEORGIA,LLC.	Mitchell	H	3801	89	72.7	3.8	2.48	23899	897

[1]***Minimum herd or permanent string size of 20 cows. Yearly average calculated after 365 days on test. (Mo.) column indicates month of test. Test day milk, marked with an asterisk (*), indicates herd was milked three times per day (3X). Information in this table is compiled from Dairy Records Management Systems Reports (Raleigh, NC).***

Top GA DHIA By Test Day Fat Production – June 2016										
					Test Day Average				Yearly Average	
Herd	County	Br.	Test Date	Cows	% Days in Milk	Milk	% Fat	TD Fat	Milk	Lbs. Fat
RODGERS' HILLCREST FARMS INC.*	McDuffie	H	6/28/2016	438	88	102.3	3.5	3.19	30992	1079
DAVE CLARK	Morgan	H	5/30/2016	1116	88	96.5	3.4	2.93	29396	1051
SCOTT GLOVER	White	H	5/27/2016	210	88	89.3	3.5	2.87	26813	984
J.EVERETT WILLIAMS*	Morgan	X	6/6/2016	1905	88	87.6	3.7	2.8	26910	1055
EBERLY FAMILY FARM*	Burke	H	6/27/2016	759	87	86.1	3.6	2.7	27859	1008
PHIL HARVEY #2*	Putnam	H	5/19/2016	1262	90	77	3.8	2.7	26536	886
B&S DAIRY*	Wilcox	H	5/26/2016	756	87	90.4	3.4	2.65	25248	891
DANNY BELL*	Morgan	H	6/2/2016	280	90	83.6	3.8	2.64	25924	991
TROY YODER	Macon	H	5/27/2016	242	90	79.4	3.7	2.64	24538	958
R & D DAIRY*	Laurens	H	6/13/2016	371	91	84.7	3.3	2.56	26727	1014
IRVIN R YODER	Macon	H	6/25/2016	189	93	73.8	3.6	2.48	25781	913
AMERICAN DAIRYCO-GEORGIA,LLC.*	Mitchell	H	6/1/2016	3801	89	72.7	3.8	2.48	23899	897
TWIN OAKS FARM	Jeff Davis/Jefferson	H	5/17/2016	97	89	67.7	3.7	2.48	19382	715
HICKORY HEAD DAIRY*	Brooks	H	6/6/2016	2257	87	75.6	3.6	2.42	22027	735
MARTIN DAIRY L. L. P.	Hart	H	6/4/2016	327	91	75	3.4	2.39	24033	881
VISTA FARM	Jefferson	H	6/25/2016	93	92	62.9	3.8	2.34	23542	901
UNIV OF GA DAIRY FARM	Clarke	H	5/23/2016	125	85	67.9	3.7	2.3	19162	742
DOUG CHAMBERS	Jones	H	5/25/2016	430	89	78	3.3	2.29	25744	855
COASTAL PLAIN EXP STATION*	Tift	H	6/17/2016	285	88	78.1	3.6	2.29	24458	896
CHAD DAVIS	Putnam	H	5/11/2016	313	91	77	3.2	2.23	22613	768

[1]***Minimum herd or permanent string size of 20 cows. Yearly average calculated after 365 days on test. (Mo.) column indicates month of test. Test day milk, marked with an asterisk (*), indicates herd was milked three times per day (3X). Information in this table is compiled from Dairy Records Management Systems Reports (Raleigh, NC).***

Top GA DHIA By Test Day Milk Production – July 2016										
					Test Day Average				Yearly Average	
Herd	County	Br.	Test date	[1]Cows	% Days in Milk	Milk	% Fat	TD Fat	Milk	Lbs. Fat
RODGERS' HILLCREST FARMS INC.*	McDuffie	H	6/28/2016	438	88	102.3	3.5	3.19	30992	1079
DAVE CLARK*	Morgan	H	7/5/2016	1137	88	93.8	3.4	2.8	29352	1046
J.EVERETT WILLIAMS*	Morgan	X	7/11/2016	1962	88	89.3	3.7	2.87	26962	1050
SCOTT GLOVER	White	H	6/30/2016	210	88	86.6	3.4	2.61	26813	987
EBERLY FAMILY FARM*	Burke	H	6/27/2016	759	87	86.1	3.6	2.7	27859	1008
DANNY BELL*	Morgan	H	7/9/2016	276	89	82	3.7	2.67	25780	984
A & J DAIRY*	Wilkes	H	7/27/2016	420	91	81.9			28340	
B&S DAIRY*	Wilcox	H	7/8/2016	790	87	81.1	3.3	2.2	25493	897
R & D DAIRY*	Laurens	H	7/14/2016	372	90	80.2	3.6	2.63	26753	1008
HICKORY HEAD DAIRY*	Brooks	H	7/5/2016	2254	87	75.3	3.6	2.43	22287	744
IRVIN R YODER	Macon	H	6/25/2016	189	93	73.8	3.6	2.48	25781	913
TROY YODER	Macon	H	7/25/2016	252	90	73.4	3.9	2.39	24574	960
DOUG CHAMBERS	Jones	H	7/27/2016	437	89	73	3.4	2.09	25549	846
LARRY MOODY	Ware	H	6/30/2016	1019	88	72.4			23606	
COASTAL PLAIN EXP STATION*	Tift	H	7/19/2016	291	88	72.2	4.1	2.56	24277	896
AMERICAN DAIRYCO-GEORGIA,LLC.*	Mitchell	H	7/6/2016	3877	89	72	3.6	2.32	24016	901
OCMULGEE DAIRY	Houston	H	6/30/2016	327	86	70.4	3.2	1.95	22370	798
MARTIN DAIRY L. L. P.	Hart	H	7/1/2016	324	91	70.3	3.6	2.23	24081	882
BILL DODSON	Putnam	H	7/25/2016	234	89	69.6	2.9	1.72	23167	781
CHAD DAVIS	Putnam	H	6/29/2016	301	90	68.1	2.5	1.66	22847	759

[1]Minimum herd or permanent string size of 20 cows. Yearly average calculated after 365 days on test. (Mo.) column indicates month of test. Test day milk, marked with an asterisk (*), indicates herd was milked three times per day (3X). Information in this table is compiled from Dairy Records Management Systems Reports (Raleigh, NC).

Top GA DHIA By Test Day Fat Production - July 2016										
					Test Day Average				Yearly Average	
Herd	County	Br.	Test Date	[1]Cows	% Days in Milk	Milk	% Fat	TD Fat	Milk	Lbs. Fat
RODGERS' HILLCREST FARMS INC.*	McDuffie	H	6/28/2016	438	88	102.3	3.5	3.19	30992	1079
J.EVERETT WILLIAMS*	Morgan	X	7/11/2016	1962	88	89.3	3.7	2.87	26962	1050
DAVE CLARK*	Morgan	H	7/5/2016	1137	88	93.8	3.4	2.8	29352	1046
EBERLY FAMILY FARM*	Burke	H	6/27/2016	759	87	86.1	3.6	2.7	27859	1008
DANNY BELL*	Morgan	H	7/9/2016	276	89	82	3.7	2.67	25780	984
R & D DAIRY*	Laurens	H	7/14/2016	372	90	80.2	3.6	2.63	26753	1008
SCOTT GLOVER	White	H	6/30/2016	210	88	86.6	3.4	2.61	26813	987
COASTAL PLAIN EXP STATION*	Tift	H	7/19/2016	291	88	72.2	4.1	2.56	24277	896
IRVIN R YODER	Macon	H	6/25/2016	189	93	73.8	3.6	2.48	25781	913
HICKORY HEAD DAIRY*	Brooks	H	7/5/2016	2254	87	75.3	3.6	2.43	22287	744
TROY YODER	Macon	H	7/25/2016	252	90	73.4	3.9	2.39	24574	960
VISTA FARM	Jefferson	H	6/25/2016	93	92	62.9	3.8	2.34	23542	901
AMERICAN DAIRYCO-GEORGIA,LLC.*	Mitchell	H	7/6/2016	3877	89	72	3.6	2.32	24016	901
MARTIN DAIRY L. L. P.	Hart	H	7/1/2016	324	91	70.3	3.6	2.23	24081	882
B&S DAIRY*	Wilcox	H	7/8/2016	790	87	81.1	3.3	2.2	25493	897
WILLIAMS DAIRY	Taliaferro	H	6/15/2016	137	90	63.9	3.7	2.17	23476	850
FRANKS FARM	Burke/Butts	B	7/18/2016	175	91	58.1	4	2.17	19443	772
TWIN OAKS FARM	Jeff Davis/Jefferson	H	7/6/2016	97	89	55.2	4	2.16	19744	734
COOL SPRINGS DAIRY	Laurens	H	7/19/2016	179	85	62.9	3.7	2.13	20331	735
WALNUT BRANCH FARM	Washington	H	6/21/2016	297	90	61	3.5	2.13	19708	705

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Top GA DHIA By Test Day Milk Production – August 2016										
					Test Day Average				Yearly Average	
Herd	County	Br.	Test Date	[1]Cows	% Days in Milk	Milk	% Fat	TD Fat	Milk	Lbs. Fat
RODGERS' HILLCREST FARMS INC.*	McDuffie	H	8/9/2016	445	88	95.6	3.4	2.83	31144	1091
DAVE CLARK*	Morgan	H	8/1/2016	1136	88	93.5	3.5	2.8	29403	1045
J.EVERETT WILLIAMS*	Morgan	X	8/8/2016	1958	88	91.3	3.8	3.09	27103	1054
EBERLY FAMILY FARM*	Burke	H	8/24/2016	769	87	87.9	3.5	2.62	28163	1013
SCOTT GLOVER	White	H	8/26/2016	212	87	85.5	3.9	2.99	26823	1003
DANNY BELL*	Morgan	H	8/4/2016	276	89	84.9	3.8	2.95	25892	991
A & J DAIRY*	Wilkes	H	8/23/2016	413	91	78.9			28197	
R & D DAIRY*	Laurens	H	8/19/2016	373	90	76.5	3.4	2.33	26794	1000
B&S DAIRY*	Wilcox	H	8/18/2016	769	87	76.4	3.4	2.21	25623	900
TROY YODER	Macon	H	7/25/2016	252	90	73.4	3.9	2.39	24574	960
DOUG CHAMBERS	Jones	H	7/27/2016	437	89	73	3.4	2.09	25549	846
AMERICAN DAIRYCO-GEORGIA,LLC.*	Mitchell	H	8/3/2016	3882	90	72	3.7	2.36	24122	906
COASTAL PLAIN EXP STATION*	Tift	H	8/15/2016	278	88	71.5	4	2.62	24307	907
MARTIN DAIRY L. L. P.	Hart	H	7/1/2016	324	91	70.3	3.6	2.23	24081	882
IRVIN R YODER	Macon	H	7/31/2016	187	93	69.9	3.5	2.24	25626	910
CECIL DUECK	Jefferson	H	8/15/2016	69	88	68.7	3.2	1.71	21875	736
HICKORY HEAD DAIRY*	Brooks	H	8/6/2016	2219	87	68.4	3.6	2.17	22569	754
CHAD DAVIS	Putnam	H	6/29/2016	301	90	68.1	2.5	1.66	22847	759
BILL DODSON	Putnam	H	8/29/2016	228	89	65.7	3	1.53	23265	774
LARRY MOODY	Ware/Warren	H	8/31/2016	1005	87	64.8			23572	

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Top GA DHIA By Test Day Fat Production – August 2016										
					Test Day Average				Yearly Average	
Herd	County	Br.	Test Date	[1]Cows	% Days in Milk	Milk	% Fat	TD Fat	Milk	Lbs. Fat
J.EVERETT WILLIAMS*	Morgan	X	8/8/2016	1958	88	91.3	3.8	3.09	27103	1054
SCOTT GLOVER	White	H	8/26/2016	212	87	85.5	3.9	2.99	26823	1003
DANNY BELL*	Morgan	H	8/4/2016	276	89	84.9	3.8	2.95	25892	991
RODGERS' HILLCREST FARMS INC.*	McDuffie	H	8/9/2016	445	88	95.6	3.4	2.83	31144	1091
DAVE CLARK*	Morgan	H	8/1/2016	1136	88	93.5	3.5	2.8	29403	1045
EBERLY FAMILY FARM*	Burke	H	8/24/2016	769	87	87.9	3.5	2.62	28163	1013
COASTAL PLAIN EXP STATION*	Tift	H	8/15/2016	278	88	71.5	4	2.62	24307	907
TROY YODER	Macon	H	7/25/2016	252	90	73.4	3.9	2.39	24574	960
AMERICAN DAIRYCO-GEORGIA,LLC.*	Mitchell	H	8/3/2016	3882	90	72	3.7	2.36	24122	906
R & D DAIRY*	Laurens	H	8/19/2016	373	90	76.5	3.4	2.33	26794	1000
WALNUT BRANCH FARM	Washington	H	8/17/2016	326	90	57	4.1	2.27	19801	716
IRVIN R YODER	Macon	H	7/31/2016	187	93	69.9	3.5	2.24	25626	910
MARTIN DAIRY L. L. P.	Hart	H	7/1/2016	324	91	70.3	3.6	2.23	24081	882
B&S DAIRY*	Wilcox	H	8/18/2016	769	87	76.4	3.4	2.21	25623	900
HICKORY HEAD DAIRY*	Brooks	H	8/6/2016	2219	87	68.4	3.6	2.17	22569	754
COOL SPRINGS DAIRY	Laurens	H	7/19/2016	179	85	62.9	3.7	2.13	20331	735
VISTA FARM	Jefferson	H	7/30/2016	93	93	60.3	4.1	2.12	23455	902
FRANKS FARM	Burke/Butts	B	8/16/2016	169	91	59.2	4	2.11	19656	781
DOUG CHAMBERS	Jones	H	7/27/2016	437	89	73	3.4	2.09	25549	846
JOHN WESTSTEYN*	Pike/Pierce	X	7/31/2016	1164	92	62.5	3.6	2.04	19704	707

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Top GA Lows Herds for SCC –TD Average Score - June 2016									
Herd	**County**	**Test Date**	**Br**	**Cows**	**Milk-Rolling**	**SCC-TD-Average Score**	**SCC-TD-Weight Average**	**SCC- Average Score**	**SCC-Wt.**
SCOTT GLOVER	White	6/30/2016	H	210	26813	0.9	64	1.9	108
BERRY COLLEGE DAIRY	Floyd	6/27/2016	J	36	16515	1.2	38	1.5	59
JAMES W MOON	Morgan	7/6/2016	H	122	17083	1.2	109	1.9	143
MARTIN DAIRY L. L. P.	Hart	7/1/2016	H	324	24081	1.3	88	2.8	263
DANNY BELL*	Morgan	7/9/2016	H	276	25780	1.5	114	1.9	142
W.T.MERIWETHER	Morgan	7/12/2016	H	81	18803	1.6	102	2.6	236
BRENNEMAN FARMS	McIntosh/Macon	6/24/2016	H	129	18417	1.7	185	2.5	369
IRVIN R YODER	Macon	6/25/2016	H	189	25781	1.7	91	2.3	157
J.EVERETT WILLIAMS*	Morgan	7/11/2016	X	1962	26962	1.7	132	1.6	110
RUFUS YODER JR	Macon	6/29/2016	H	132	22448	1.8	135	2.6	272
ALEX MILLICAN	Walker	7/4/2016	H	98	18886	1.9	164	2.3	218
DAVID ADDIS	Wilcox	6/25/2016	H	34	19744	1.9	233	1.6	116
TROY YODER	Macon	7/25/2016	H	252	24574	1.9	121	2.3	161
DAVE CLARK*	Morgan	7/5/2016	H	1137	29352	1.9	161	1.9	143
RUSSELL JOHNSTON	Morgan	7/14/2016	X	85	13399	2	221	2.2	237
DAN DURHAM	Grady/Greene	7/20/2016	X	110	16890	2.1	138	2.8	204
R & D DAIRY*	Laurens	7/14/2016	H	372	26753	2.1	222	2.4	259
RANDY W. RUFF. SR	Elbert/Emanuel	6/28/2016	H	160	16112	2.2	130	3.3	381
BRUCE HARPER	Morgan	7/13/2016	H	155	16274	2.2	294	3.1	373
UNIV OF GA DAIRY FARM	Clarke	7/25/2016	H	121	19190	2.2	191	3	320
RODGERS' HILLCREST FARMS INC.*	McDuffie	6/28/2016	H	438	30992	2.2	222	2.3	204

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Top GA Lows Herds for SCC –TD Average Score – July 2016									
Herd	**County**	**Test Date**	**Br.**	**Cows**	**Milk-Rolling**	**SCC-TD-Average Score**	**SCC-TD-Weight Average**	**SCC-Average Score**	**SCC-Wt.**
SCOTT GLOVER	White	6/30/2016	H	210	26813	0.9	64	1.9	108
BERRY COLLEGE DAIRY	Floyd	6/27/2016	J	36	16515	1.2	38	1.5	59
JAMES W MOON	Morgan	7/6/2016	H	122	17083	1.2	109	1.9	143
MARTIN DAIRY L. L. P.	Hart/Heard	7/1/2016	H	324	24081	1.3	88	2.8	263
DANNY BELL*	Morgan	7/9/2016	H	276	25780	1.5	114	1.9	142
W.T.MERIWETHER	Morgan	7/12/2016	H	81	18803	1.6	102	2.6	236
BRENNEMAN FARMS	McIntosh/Macon	6/24/2016	H	129	18417	1.7	185	2.5	369
IRVIN R YODER	Macon	6/25/2016	H	189	25781	1.7	91	2.3	157
J.EVERETT WILLIAMS*	Morgan	7/11/2016	X	1962	26962	1.7	132	1.6	110
RUFUS YODER JR	Macon	6/29/2016	H	132	22448	1.8	135	2.6	272
ALEX MILLICAN	Walker	7/4/2016	H	98	18886	1.9	164	2.3	218
DAVID ADDIS	Whitfield/Wilcox	6/25/2016	H	34	19744	1.9	233	1.6	116
TROY YODER	Macon	7/25/2016	H	252	24574	1.9	121	2.3	161
DAVE CLARK*	Morgan	7/5/2016	H	1137	29352	1.9	161	1.9	143
RUSSELL JOHNSTON	Morgan	7/14/2016	X	85	13399	2	221	2.2	237
DAN DURHAM	Grady/Greene	7/20/2016	X	110	16890	2.1	138	2.8	204
R & D DAIRY*	Laurens	7/14/2016	H	372	26753	2.1	222	2.4	259
RANDY W. RUFF. SR	Elbert/Emanuel	6/28/2016	H	160	16112	2.2	130	3.3	381
BRUCE HARPER	Morgan	7/13/2016	H	155	16274	2.2	294	3.1	373
UNIV OF GA DAIRY FARM	Clarke	7/25/2016	H	121	19190	2.2	191	3	320
RODGERS' HILLCREST FARMS INC.	McDuffie	6/28/2016	H	438	30992	2.2	222	2.3	204

[1]Minimum herd or permanent string size of 20 cows. Yearly average calculated after 365 days on test. (Mo.) column indicates month of test. Test day milk, marked with an asterisk (*), indicates herd was milked three times per day (3X). Information in this table is compiled from Dairy Records Management Systems Reports (Raleigh, NC).

Top GA Lows Herds for SCC –TD Average Score – August 2016									
Herd	**County**	**Test Date**	**Br.**	**Cows**	**Milk-Rolling**	**SCC-TD-Average Score**	**SCC-TD-Weight Average**	**SCC-Average Score**	**SCC-Wt.**
DAVID ADDIS	Whitfield/Wilcox	8/7/2016	H	34	19286	1.3	52	1.5	120
MARTIN DAIRY L. L. P.	Hart	7/1/2016	H	324	24081	1.3	88	2.8	263
DANNY BELL*	Morgan	8/4/2016	H	276	25892	1.4	114	1.9	139
SCOTT GLOVER	White	8/26/2016	H	212	26823	1.7	98	1.7	98
VISTA FARM	Jefferson	7/30/2016	H	93	23455	1.9	131	2.2	199
TROY YODER	Macon	7/25/2016	H	252	24574	1.9	121	2.3	161
DAVE CLARK*	Morgan	8/1/2016	H	1136	29403	1.9	173	1.9	147
RUSSELL JOHNSTON	Morgan	7/14/2016	X	85	13399	2	221	2.2	237
J.EVERETT WILLIAMS*	Morgan	8/8/2016	X	1958	27103	2	182	1.6	114
DAN DURHAM	Grady/Greene	7/20/2016	X	110	16890	2.1	138	2.8	204
JAMES W MOON	Morgan	8/3/2016	H	121	17094	2.1	141	2	142
R & D DAIRY*	Laurens	8/19/2016	H	373	26794	2.1	210	2.4	254
RODGERS' HILLCREST FARMS INC.*	McDuffie	8/9/2016	H	445	31144	2.1	185	2.3	202
ALEX MILLICAN	Walker	8/7/2016	H	97	18575	2.2	147	2.3	218
WILLIAMS DAIRY	Taliaferro	8/4/2016	H	139	23089	2.3	307	2.6	235
SOUTHERN SANDS FARM	Burke/Butts	8/20/2016	H	82		2.4	210	2.7	286
BERRY COLLEGE DAIRY	Floyd	8/25/2016	J	38	16383	2.4	69	1.6	56
COOL SPRINGS DAIRY	Laurens	7/19/2016	H	179	20331	2.4	270	2.5	251
LOUIS YODER	McIntosh/Macon	8/22/2016	H	123	20922	2.4	256	2.9	330
BRENNEMAN FARMS	McIntosh/Macon	8/15/2016	H	125	18186	2.5	315	2.4	346
UNIV OF GA DAIRY FARM	Clarke	8/18/2016	H	120	19134	2.5	276	3	316

[1]Minimum herd or permanent string size of 20 cows. Yearly average calculated after 365 days on test. (Mo.) column indicates month of test. Test day milk, marked with an asterisk (*), indicates herd was milked three times per day (3X). Information in this table is compiled from Dairy Records Management Systems Reports (Raleigh, NC).