

Dairy Alliance Discussion Groups for Dairy Producers

Groups are now forming in south-central
and western Pennsylvania

For dairy producers who want to meet regularly
to network and learn from each other

About the program:

Penn State Dairy Alliance, in cooperation with Penn State Dairy Extension educators, is currently forming discussion groups for dairy producers in south-central and western Pennsylvania who want an opportunity to meet regularly so they may network and learn from each other. The goal is to bring producers together in an informal atmosphere to focus on topics of particular interest to them. Do you want healthier cows? Join a discussion group focused on cow health. Do you want more profit? Join a group focused on improving business practices and the bottom line. Groups will be formed based on producer need. It is anticipated that groups will be comprised of 6-10 producers and will meet up to six times per year for approximately two hours per session. There is no charge to participate in the discussion groups. The only cost to a producer is for his/her meal if the group chooses to meet over breakfast, lunch or dinner.

About the facilitator:

Dave Hileman, a leader in the Pennsylvania dairy industry and a life-long dairy producer from Tyrone, Pa., in Blair County, has joined the Dairy Alliance team to facilitate the discussion groups. Dave will help form the discussion groups by identifying producers with similar interests in similar locations, and will assist in making certain that the logistical needs of the

groups are met. For more information about the program, see the details and complete the survey on the back of this information sheet.



“Producers need an opportunity to talk with other producers to exchange ideas and experiences...”

that’s the whole purpose of these discussion groups. Discussion groups can be beneficial in many ways. Producers can learn from their peers with similar interests, share information about ‘real world’ dairying, and get new ideas to make their own operations or herds even better.”

*Dave Hileman, facilitator
Penn State Dairy Alliance
Discussion Groups*



Penn State **EXTENSION**
grow



Interested in joining a discussion group?

We invite producers to complete this survey and fax it back to:
814-865-4686 or mail it to the Dairy Alliance office (address below).

For your convenience, this survey is also available online at:
<http://dairyalliance.psu.edu/education/discussion-groups/>



Penn State Dairy Alliance Discussion Groups Producer Survey

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

County of residence: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Fax: (____) _____ Email: _____

Farm name: _____

Herd size (#): ____ milking ____ replacements Your title (select one): ____ Owner ____ Manager ____ Herdsman
____ Other; *Specify*: _____

Discussion groups will be formed around specific topics of interest to producers. Please answer the questions below to indicate a topic(s) that would be of interest to you. Select the topics that you would be interested in exploring in a discussion group. Check all that are of interest to you.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Better business management | <input type="checkbox"/> Managing a Hispanic workforce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cow health and longevity | <input type="checkbox"/> Milk quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crops | <input type="checkbox"/> Methane digesters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Farm Bookkeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Genomics/genetics | <input type="checkbox"/> Robotics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grazing | <input type="checkbox"/> Satellite dairy development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human resource management | <input type="checkbox"/> Succession planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improving profitability | <input type="checkbox"/> Value-added opportunities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifestyle; improving your family's lifestyle on the dairy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other; <i>Specify</i> : _____ |

Of the topics you selected, which one would you rank as your priority for joining a discussion group?

For more information about discussion groups:

Visit the program website at:
<http://dairyalliance.psu.edu/education/discussion-groups/>



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