



DAIRY ADVISORY TEAMS

Sample Meeting Minutes 2

DAT Meeting Notes

October 22, 2001

Members present:

David and Cindy Smith, Dr. O'Leary, Debbie Jones, John Blank, Mary Worley

The farm team members gave updates on:

- Feed Cost Numbers for DHI – John will calculate and provide numbers to David in the 2nd week of every month so that David has accurate numbers to give to the tester on test day.
- It was noted that DHI doesn't have correct cow numbers. Adjustments will be made at the next test.
- OvSync – Cindy reports 42% conception rate.
- Heifer changes – Bred heifers and weaned calves were treated for coccidiosis and put on pasture. Bred heifers are with the dry cows to create the desired separation. It was noted that keeping feed available for these animals is critical.

Review of assignments:

- Heifer options – David and Debbie visited Marilyn Moore's heifer facilities. Marilyn will build a box stall to handle 4-month-old heifers and has changed contract to include all care, hauling, and breeding for \$1.65.
- Cow projections – Mary and David report that next Aug there should be 165-175 total cows depending on culling rate. Need to have 154 milking.
- Shade for dry cows – space for dry cows in bank barn where heifers were. Need ventilation and fence line feeder.
- DairyComp Data sheet – pleased with increase in heifer and cow 305 MEs

Group discussion – What if 50 heifers go to the Moore's?

- \$2,500 bill
- Adequate forage
- Milk check is covering bills.
- Need to use labor and feed not going into heifers.
- Loans with \$5,000 payments ending Oct and Nov
- Need to pay off feed bill starting Jan 1 - ? payment schedule
- Add cows? – AgChoice can get \$ for cow purchases.
- 2x vs. 3x milking – too much stress on family
- Use of silo saves cost of silo bags
- AgChoice can offer line of credit.



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Group recommendation: Proceed with AgChoice line of credit to get heifers to Moore's now. Work towards loan or restructure to buy cows to fill freestalls.

Decision: David wants to get all heifers between 4 months and breeding age to Moore's and is comfortable with finances with the support from AgChoice

Assignments:

- David will call Moore's with number and arrival date (2-4 weeks)
- Heifers need ear tags and two 9-way vaccines
- Unload moldy feed from silo
- Dr. O'Leary will investigate 2 abortions
- Mary will work on line of credit and cow loan
- Once young heifers are gone, need to move bred heifers to heifer barn
- Dr. O'Leary and John will look at ventilation needs of bank barn
- Cindy and David will consider design for fence row feeder for dry cows

Next 2 meeting dates are Sept. 10th and Oct 1st

Note: Dr O'Leary can't attend Oct meeting but will provide DairyComp summary prior to meeting.