

February 28, 2002

PRODUCTION HERD FEEDING

The milking herd is divided into several groups. The number of groups depends on the number of research projects being conducted. Dairy Comp 305 lists the various groups and the number of animals in each group.

The entire herd is currently being milked two times per day.

The TIE-STALL GROUP is potentially made up of research project animals, fresh animals that are monitored and a HOSPITAL GROUP. The Hospital Group includes those animals under veterinary care, mastitis infection, injury or illness requiring them to be separated from the herd and or having to make sure that their treated milk is discarded. When the tie-stall barn is at capacity with research animals, the hospital group and fresh cows will be housed in either the heifer free-stall barn or milk cow free-stall barn.

The number of different rations fed to cows will vary depending on research projects being conducted. The complex manager and the feeder will have this information.

The following criteria will be used for Non-Research animals one month prior to their dry off date. If an animal is on a research project until she is dried off, check on how the PI wants this handled.

1. BST will be discontinued on all animals (including induced heifers) milking in excess of 50 pounds.
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2. Cows milking in excess of 85 pounds will be moved to the low group. This will help lower milk production as well as transition them to a high forage diet when they get dried off.

Dairy Comp 305 report:

SHOW ID MTOT DIM PEN DRY60 BSTDT FOR LACT>0 DRY60>0 MTOT>0 BY DRY60
will list cows eligible to meet the above criteria.