

Topic of the Month

Post Dipping in the Winter-Precautions

1. Post-dipping creates a dilemma for many dairymen in the winter. It is tempting to discontinue teat dipping in extremely cold weather to reduce the risk of wet teats becoming frozen but the disadvantage is that the protection offered by teat dipping after every milking is lost. The recommended practice is to continue the normal dipping routine, but take extra steps for protection. First, allow the teat dip to be in contact with the teat for at least 30 seconds after dipping to allow for some drying time. Then, use a clean cloth towel to blot the teat *dry*. The teat needs to be dry because if any of the dip is dripping, the teat is still subject to freezing. It is recognized this practice will take slightly extra time during the milking routine. But remember, this is probably only necessary during extreme cold weather conditions. And, having healthy teats is far more preferable than milking cows with cracked or sore teats.

2. Regardless of the product being used for dipping, be sure the dip itself has been protected from freezing. Frozen teat dips may separate out resulting in the active ingredient being found in much higher concentrations at the bottom of the bulk container. Preventing freezing may prevent burning teats that may occur if a highly concentrated product is unintentionally applied.

Commodity Futures

Source: CME

Corn(Jan) as of Dec 31	\$3.59
Soybeans (Jan) as of Dec 31	\$8.72
Soybean meal (Jan) as of Dec 31	\$264.30
Cheese (Jan) as of Dec 31	\$1.51
Class III (Jan) as of Dec 31	\$13.56
Class III (Feb) as of Dec 31	\$13.75
Class III (Mar) as of Dec 31	\$14.18

Practice News

Beginning March 1, 2016, the doctors of White Oak Veterinary Clinic will begin sharing emergency duty with Dr. Steve Triol on Saturday evenings and Sundays. As part of this cooperation between Dr. Triol and us, it is imperative that we adhere to the terms of our agreement. We ask for your understanding in this matter

In The News

Bur-Wall Buckeye Gigi Sets National Milk Production Record

From *Holsteinusa.com*

Brattleboro, Vt. (January 20, 2016)...Bur-Wall Buckeye Gigi, a Wisconsin Holstein, has become the new holder of the national milk production record. Gigi, bred and owned by the Behnke family's Bur-Wall Holsteins in Brooklyn, Wisconsin, calved at nine years and three months, and set a 365-day record of 74,650 pounds of milk, with 2,126 pounds of fat and 2,142 pounds of protein.

Her production breaks the record set by Ever-Green-View My 1326-ET, owned by Thomas J. Kestell of Waldo, Wisconsin, back in 2010. That 365-day record was 72,170 pounds of milk.

By comparison, the actual production average for all U.S. Holstein herds enrolled in production-testing programs in 2014 was 24,953 pounds of milk, 918 pounds of butterfat and 773 pounds of protein.

Nine-year-old Gigi, who is scored EX-94 3E, was sired by R-E-W Buckeye-ET. She classified VG-88 as a two-year-old. Then, as an eight-year-old, she gave 61,186 pounds of milk and led the state of Wisconsin and the country in milk production, fat, and protein for Mature cows.

Upcoming Events

- Mar. 8. Producer meeting at Sipesville Fire Hall with Renaissance Nutrition featuring talks by Dr. Paul Fricke and Dr. David Welch. Save the Date!
- Feb. 20. Producer meeting with Laurel Highlands Animal Health on the Veterinary Feed Directive at Oakhurst Tea Room 9AM
- March 18. Holstein Club Banquet at Sipesville Fire Hall 7PM