

Newsletter of White Oak Veterinary Clinic, PC

Topic of the Month

Eight Dos of Proper Milking

1. Do provide a low stress environment for cows. Hitting cows, and loud noises during milking cause the release of epinephrine which inhibits the release of oxytocin slows milk letdown.
2. Do check foremilk and udder for mastitis. Stripping is the primary method for detecting mild and moderate cases of mastitis and assists in milk let-down.
3. Do predip teats in an effective disinfectant product, and allow a minimum of 30 seconds exposure to kill bacteria.
4. Do dry teat ends with an individual towel. Milking wet teats increases the likelihood of mastitis and reduces milk quality.
5. Attach milking unit within 60 to 120 seconds after initiation of stimulation prep to coincide with hormonal release and milk let-down.
6. Do align milking units immediately following attachment to be approximately parallel to cow udder and with the goal of minimizing liner slips or squawks and irritation of the teat ends.
7. Do remove milking units at the cessation of milk flow to reduce irritation to teat ends.
8. Do postdip immediately after unit removal to prevent new infections

Commodity Futures

Source: CME

Corn(Sept) as of July 31	\$3.71
Soybeans(Aug) as of July 31	\$9.81
Soybean meal(Aug) as of July 31	\$354.60
Cheese (July) as of July 31	\$1.70
Class III(July) as of July 31	\$16.28
Class III(Aug) as of July 31	\$16.41
Class III(Sept) as of July 31	\$16.56

In The News

Super-Charged Genetics

For decades, artificial insemination (AI) powered by progeny proofs drove genetic advancement in the dairy industry. Now, a new set of tools is aiding dairy producers in their quest for increased yields, higher quality milk and cattle and improved longevity. Recently, genomics and in vitro fertilization (IVF) are increasingly being used to accelerate genetic gains—even at the commercial level.

At Oakfield Corners Dairy in Oakfield, N.Y., Jonathan Lamb uses both embryo transplant and IVF on his 6,000-cow dairy. “We know genetics work,” Lamb says. “If we can use a tool like genomics and increase the reliability, those genetics are going to work even better.”

“We are transferring over 4,000 embryos a year. About a quarter of those would be for the high-type market and the balance would be for genomic cattle,” Lamb says. Lamb genomic tests about 100 calves per month with two-thirds being heifers. The genomic tests help identify which females will be donors, recipients or AI bred to produce their own calves.

Dairy Today

Upcoming Events

- August 18-20. Penn State’s Ag Progress Days is held at the Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center, 2710 West Pine Grove Road, Pennsylvania Furnace, Pa., 16865.
- August 22-29. Somerset County Fair. Meyersdale PA