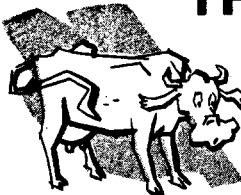




Why keep . . . Dairy Production Records?

THEY HELP YOU TO :



1. Cull out low producers and increase net income



2. Feed grain according to production and save money



3. Select cows whose calves will be good herd replacement

PLANS AVAILABLE TO NORTH DAKOTA DAIRYMEN

S
544.3
.N9
A8
no. 390

NDSU LIBRARIES

EXTENSION SERVICE
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE

Three basic record keeping plans are available to North Dakota Dairymen.

1. Dairy Herd Improvement Association (DHIA)
2. Owner-Sampler Program (O-S)
3. Weigh-A-Day-A-Month Program (WADAM)

Costs of Programs:

1. The DHIA program costs about 50 cents to \$1.00 per cow per month depending upon strength of the association in which a dairyman is a member.
2. The O-S program usually costs about 30 to 50 cents per cow per month.
3. The WADAM program may cost up to 10 cents per cow per month.

How the Programs Operate:

DHIA -- The record keeping is supervised by a DHIA supervisor employed by an Association consisting of dairymen who wish to keep production records on their herds.

Advantages:

1. Records are official DHIA records and may be used for advertising purposes. They are also used by the United States Department of Agriculture in computing state production averages, sire provings and in other research work.
2. Herd owner does not have responsibility of weighing and sampling milk from his herd. This means he does not need the equipment (scales, sample bottles, dippers).
3. Complete milk and butterfat record is obtained.
4. Feed, cost, income and management data are obtained.
5. A more complete record usually results because the supervisor records dates, eartags, calves and maintains an individual cow history page on each cow.

O-S -- Records are not supervised and are meant for the owners own use in improving his dairy herd. The herd owner is responsible for sample taking and reporting necessary information to processing center. This includes milk weights, butterfat test of the milk, calving dates and breeding dates which are used to calculate the production record. Usually a milk plant, creamery or local high school agricultural department does the testing of butterfat for the dairyman.

The O-S records are processed in the same way as DHIA records but are not supervised records. The herd owner must have a dairy scale (\$7.00 -- \$8.00), enough sample bottles for his herd (4 oz.) and a dipper for taking the sample.

Advantages:

1. Cost is less than the DHIA program.
2. Records may be as complete as DHIA depending on the dairyman.
3. Accurate culling may be done using these records.
4. Feed and management data are included in record also.

WADAM -- Consists of weighing the milk from each cow in herd one day each month. No butterfat test is made of the milk. Provides a record of milk produced by each cow in the herd and can provide a fairly accurate record of feed cost and return above feed cost on a herd basis.

All types of records may be computed electronically: The WADAM electronically computed record is now on trial period at NDSU.

The O-S and DHIA records are processed at two processing centers. At this time all new herds are being sent to the Ames, Iowa, processing center. The cost of computing these records is 20 cents a cow for the first month and 10 cents a cow per month after the first month plus \$1.00 a year herd fee to cover cost of materials used by the processing center.



George R. Fisher
Dairyman

Extension Service, North Dakota State University of Agriculture and Applied Science, and
U. S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. A. H. Holm, Director, Fargo, North Dakota.
Distributed in furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914.