DRMS
DAIRY RECORDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

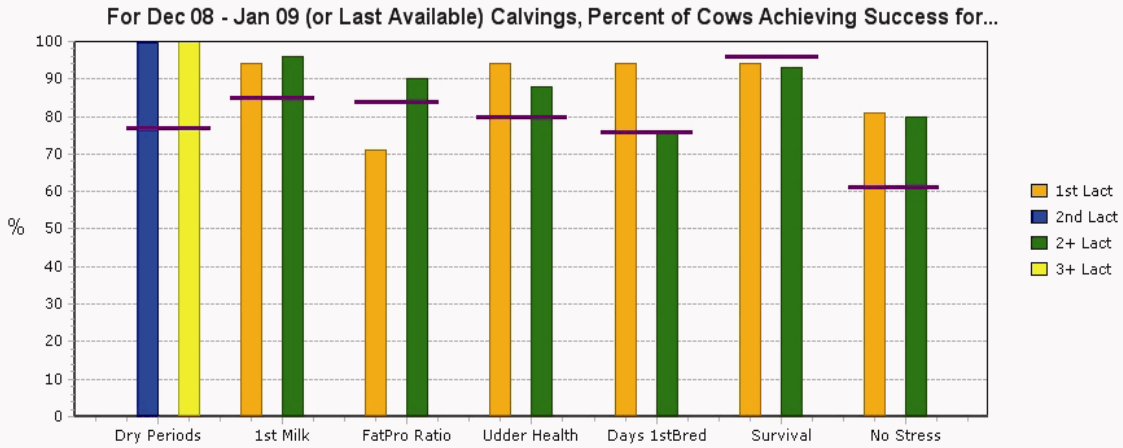
Transition Cow Mgt Report (DHI-403)

Help Cows Reach Their Full Potential in the Milking Herd

From dry date to 40 days after calving is a critical transition period for your cows. Successful management of this period enables cows to begin lactations ready to meet or exceed their genetic capabilities. The Transition Cow Management Report provides analysis of seven important monitors that will help you discover opportunities for improving the management of the transition period.

Overview **Which elements of Transition Cow Management are working well?**

This graph includes one set of bars for each of the seven Management Monitors on the following pages. The colored bars represent the performance for cows that calved in the most recent period. The purple line on each bar marks the performance of the top 10% herds for the specific Management Monitor. Performance higher than the purple line means that yours is a "top herd", and, lower performance indicates an opportunity for improvement. This graph should identify area(s) that deserve management attention in the most recent period. Use graphs and tables on the following pages for more information.



For all graphs except Fat Protein Ratio and Udder Health, the numbers of cows assessed in each period are summarized in the table below. For Fat Protein Ratio and Udder Health, an additional table of cow counts is included following the appropriate section to allow an assessment of the "power" of the bars on the graphs. If the number of cows included is less than 25 and less than 66% of the cows that calved have sample data, then the bars are displayed with "low confidence" indicators.

Number of Cows Calved

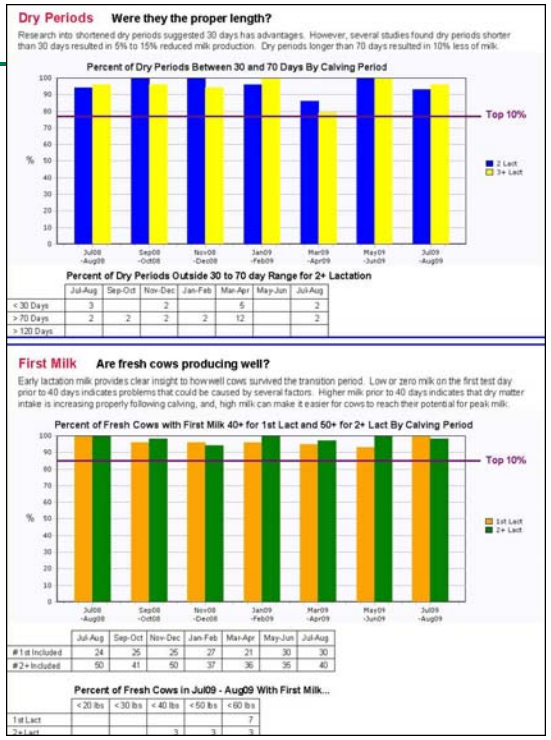
	Dec-Jan	Feb-Mar	Apr-May	Jun-Jul	Aug-Sep	Oct-Nov	Dec-Jan
# 1st Lact Calved	39	27	24	23	30	33	21
# 2+ Lact Calved	54	36	37	45	54	55	55

Analysis and graphs of seven important monitors are provided that will help you discover opportunities for improving management of the transition period.

An overview graph shows the yearly average for each monitor.

over

Seven Important Monitors



- **Dry Periods** - were they the proper length?
  Studies found that dry periods < 30 days = 5% to 15% less milk; >70 days = 10% less milk
  If shorter dry periods are targeted, are they being achieved? Are there too many early dries?

- **First Milk** - are cows producing well?
  Cows that have low first test milk weights likely had a problem in transition. Higher milk indicates dry matter intake is adequate and these cows should reach their potential for peak milk.

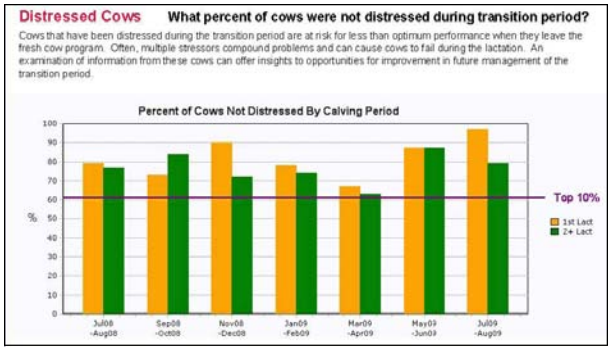
- **Fat Protein Ratio (FPR)** - is it appropriate on the first test?
  A normal FPR of 1.0 to 1.6 on the first test indicates that cows began the lactation eating well, are maintaining bodyweight, and there are few metabolic and infectious disorders.

- **Udder Health - what percent of the herd does not have an SCC infection on the first test?**
  A high percentage of infected cows on first test (SCC score >4.0) indicates problems in the dry cow treatment program or dry pen conditions.

- **Reproduction** - are cows ready to breed soon enough?
  If cows have transitioned well and are healthy, and if breeders are doing their job, most cows should be bred within 30 days of the end of the voluntary waiting period.

- **Turnover** - are cows surviving to 60 days in milk?
  Excessive fresh cow culling is financially devastating. Fresh cow culling is a critical measure of fresh cow health. Healthy fresh cows are likely to perform very well during lactation. Cows leaving prior to 60 days in milk have most likely not paid for the cost of the dry period.

- **Distressed Cows** - what % of cows were not distressed during transition period?
  Stressors during the transition period can cause cows to fail during the lactation for any of the reasons listed in the chart. In addition to a graph showing the percent of cows not distressed, a list of fresh cows with low milk and/or high SCC is provided to highlight why the cow is considered distressed. These cows should be checked soon.



Fresh Cows with Low Milk OR High SCC Calving from 08-24-09 to 10-02-09

Barn Name	Calving Date	Grp	DIM	Lact	1st Test Milk	Pred Peak Milk	Days Dry	1st Test Fat	1st Test Pro	FPR	1st Test SCC	Prev Lact SCC	Clv Ease	SB	Tw	Ab
JEMI	Aug 29	2	35	4	30	74	45	2.4	3.2	0.8	57	1493	0			
BLU	Sep 5	2	28	3	87	109	52	3.1	2.7	1.1	1056	429	0			
SUZIE	Sep 15	2	18	3	89	114	96	4.1	2.7	1.5	1393	650	0			
2747	Sep 28	2	5	3	98	125	53	6.3	3.4	1.9	325	107	0			

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