

Southeast Dairy Producer's Check-Off Program Research Summary

Better cow decisions to improve parlor efficiency and profitability

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Implications

The software is currently being developed to help make culling and insemination decisions. This is tested on dairy farms. Next it will be adapted to work for milking frequency. Implications are better science based decisions aids for dairy farmers.

Methods

We scored 811 cows for body condition, and collected their milk and reproduction data. These cows were either moved from 3X to 2X milking, or stayed at 3X milking. We are currently analyzing the data. We also developed software to calculate cash flow estimates so that optimal milking frequency for individual cows can be calculated.

Results

Software is 80% finished. Body condition score data has been collected but needs to be analyzed.

Study should be finished in 2023.

Means- Cows that went from 3X to 2X (n=311)

Variable	Mean
Lactation number	2.54 ± 1.0
Times bred	2.09 ± 1.1
DIM at successful breeding	114 ± 37.6
BCS at successful breeding	3.24 ± 0.35
Milk production at successful breeding	95.4 ± 13.2
DIM at preg check	152 ± 38.9
BCS at preg check	3.24 ± 0.32
Milk production at preg check	90.4 ± 15.7
DIM when cows were moved from 3X to 2X	190 ± 45.4
BCS when cows were moved from 3X to 2X	3.24 ± 0.31
Milk production when cows were moved from 3X to 2X	71.6 ± 14.2
DIM 30 days after cows were moved from 3X to 2X	226 ± 45.4
BCS 30 days after cows were moved from 3X to 2X	3.09 ± 0.24
Milk Production 30 days after cows were moved from 3X to 2X	67.4 ± 11.1

Slide:
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