

DAIRY PRODUCTION MEDICINE



FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL
DAIRY ACADEMY

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCES

Instructors:

Rafael S. Bisinotto
Assistant Professor
Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences
University of Florida
rsbisinotto@ufl.edu

Course Description

Healthy dairy calves and cows are the bedrock for efficient production of milk that is nutritious and safe for human consumption. The FIDA Dairy Production Medicine course is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to identify major production diseases, perform herd investigations focused on health and performance, and develop protocols for prevention and monitoring of diseases relevant to dairy herds. During this 8-week course, students will be exposed to up to date scientific knowledge and practical examples from commercial operations via online lectures and group discussions.

Course Objectives

Provide students with the knowledge, critical thinking skills, and analytical skills that are essential for monitoring health programs in dairy herds. After completion of the course, students should be able to:

- Understand concepts of dairy records and epidemiology.
- Identify infectious diseases and metabolic disorders that impact health and productivity.
- Evaluate transition programs.
- Develop strategies to prevent disease based on biosecurity, vaccination, and best management practices.
- Understand concepts of residue avoidance.
- Recognize the importance and opportunity for training of dairy farm workers.

Recommended Materials

- Lecture handouts and papers provided by each instructor.

Course Format and Expectations

Lectures and Readings: The course will be delivered via the Canvas course system. The major course topics will be separated into 8 separate modules according to the schedule below. Within each module there will be a series of three recorded lectures that are approximately 50 minutes each. There will be a short assessment that you will be required to complete after completion of each lecture. There also will be recommended readings and exercises to complete each module. You will be required to complete the module before moving to the next.

Weekly Discussions: A valuable component of the course is the weekly one-hour discussions that will be held via Zoom. The major objective of the discussions is to help the students develop a practical working knowledge of the lecture and reading materials. Therefore, students should be prepared for the discussion by watching lectures and reading ahead of time and come up with questions relevant to application of the course content. Questions from practical field experience are strongly encouraged. To also facilitate discussion, the instructors will post two or three questions in Canvas ahead of time that you should come prepared to discuss. It is expected that some students may not be able to attend the discussions because of time zone or work schedule conflicts. Students are encouraged to submit questions via Canvas in advance if they cannot attend the discussion. Please be considerate of others by being prepared and staying on topic.

Course Schedule

Module	Topic	Lectures	Readings & Activities
1	Dairy record and epidemiology	1 to 3	
2	Transition management	4 to 13	
3	Udder health	14 to 15	
4	Hoof health	16 to 17	
5	Infectious diseases	18 to 19	
6	Youngstock	20	
7	Concepts of residue avoidance	21 to 22	
8	Training for dairy farm workers	23 to 24	

Grading Policy

Pass/Fail – A cumulative score of 70% or greater is required to pass. Scores are based on assessments (75%) and participation in weekly discussions (25%).

Assessments: Short assessments will be taken place after each module. Each of the assessments will be conducted via the Canvas course system and will consist of fill in the blank, True/False, or multiple-choice questions.

Participation: Weekly discussions will be held via Zoom to discuss readings and lectures. Considering that students may not be available for the weekly scheduled meetings because of time zone or work schedule conflicts students may submit discussion questions in leu of attending the virtual meeting

Honesty and Conduct Policy

Students in the course are expected to adhere to the University of Florida honesty policy. UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

Students in this course also are expected to treat each other with fairness and respect. Harassment or rude behavior towards the instructors and other students will not be tolerated.

The instructors have the right to dismiss a student from the course for violation of the Honesty and Conduct Policy.

Software Use

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.