

NEWS RELEASE

**SCOTT GUNDERSON
MANITOWOC COUNTY UW-EXTENSION DAIRY AGENT
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EXTENSION**

December 13, 2005

Gaining the Competitive Edge Dairy Seminar Scheduled

This year's Wisconsin Dairy Road Show series will include a variety of interesting topics for both dairy producers and industry professionals. During the month of January, thirteen locations around Wisconsin will offer research updates presented by UW-Madison Department of Dairy Science Faculty on issues affecting Wisconsin dairy producers.

The program includes up-to-date information on reproductive management, dairy cattle nutrition, biosecurity and crossbreeding. In addition, the Transition Cow Index (TCI), a new benchmarking tool for fresh cows, will be explained.

On January 17th the Dairy Road Show will make a stop at Millhome Supper Club near Kiel.

Topics and speakers for the Kiel location are as follows.

- **Reproductive Management Programs to Improve Conception Rates**
Research at UW-Madison has recently focused on protocols for synchronizing and re-synchronizing systems for lactating dairy cows. Large field trial results will give recommendations for resynchronizing cows failing to conceive after a previous timed A.I. and the usage of CIDR® devices vs. GnRH administered early after timed A.I....Dr. Paul Fricke, UW-Extension Dairy Reproduction Specialist
- **Dairy Cattle Nutrition Update**
Hot topics to be covered include: Using Rumensin® in diets of dry and lactating cows, new assay for starch availability in feedstuffs, causative factors for butterfat depression, dietary protein requirements, and using milk urea nitrogen assay results...Dr. Randy Shaver, UW-Extension Dairy Nutritionist
- **Where does Biosecurity Fit on Your Farm?**
Risk factors and practical preventive strategies for important biosecurity risks such as Mycoplasma, Johnes disease, Salmonella and newly purchased cattle will be covered...Dr. Pam Ruegg, D.V.M., UW-Extension Milk Quality Specialist.
- **What We've Learned from Research about Crossbreeding**
Update on calf, heifer, and early milking cow results from Holstein x Jersey and Holstein x Jersey x Montbeliarde crosses. Discussion of commercial herds' experiences using Jerseys, Brown Swiss, French Red, and Scandinavian Red crosses...Dr. Kent Weigel, UW-Extension Geneticist
- **Transition Cow Index (TCI)**

A new DHIA report that will allow you to benchmark fresh cow management to the rest of the industry, helping producers monitor effects of individual and overall herd transition cow management...Scott Gunderson, Manitowoc County UW-Extension Dairy & Livestock Agent

Cost for the program, including breaks, lunch and materials is \$20.00 per person. Checks should be made payable to Manitowoc County Treasurer and sent to Manitowoc County UW-Extension, Attn: Scott Gunderson, P.O. Box 1150, Manitowoc, WI 54221-1150.

Early bird registration is due by January 7th, after which a \$10.00 late fee will be charged.

For more information, contact the Manitowoc County UW-Extension Office at 920-683-4168 or go to the Manitowoc County UW-Extension website at www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/manitowoc/ag/events.html to download a seminar brochure.

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