Missouri Dairy Grazing Conference
July 8 – 10, 2009

Sponsored by

Gold Level

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI Extension

DFA Dairy Farmers of America

Silver Level

FCS Financial

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Bronze Level

MDGC Missouri Dairy Growth Council

Missouri Soybeans

Missouri Forage and Grassland Council/Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative

Missouri Corn
Conference Agenda

Wednesday, July 8

Program Moderator:
David Baker, Assistant Dean of Agriculture Extension, University of Missouri Extension

PM
12:00  Registration .................. Convention Center Lobby

Trade Show Open ...................... Oklahoma Room

All Sessions in the Missouri Room

1:00  Welcome
Thomas L. Payne, Vice Chancellor and Dean, CAFNR, University of Missouri
Michael Ouart, Vice Provost for Extension, University of Missouri Extension

1:15  Redesigning our Dairy Industry
Randy Mooney, Missouri Dairy Producer, Chairman of National Milk Producers Federation and First Vice Chairman of DFA’s Board of Directors

1:45  Keys to the Most Profitable U.S. Dairy Grazing Operations
Jason Karszes, Cornell University, New York

2:30  Efficiency by Design - Layout, Facilities, Labor
Charles Fletcher, Dairy Producer, Purdy, Missouri

3:15  Break (Trade Show Open) ........ Oklahoma Room

3:45  Defining and Managing the Grazing System
Ted Probert, Dairy Specialist, University of Missouri Extension

Moderator and Producer Panel:
Clay McQuiddy, Missouri
Bernie VanDalfsen, Missouri
Ron St. John, Florida

4:30  Developing Systems for Monitoring and Managing
Peter Gaul, Dairy Producer, Dexter, Missouri

5:15  Trade Show Open ...................... Oklahoma Room

6:30  Conference Hosted Dinner ........ Hotel Ballroom
Ticket Required

Trade Show Closed

7:15  Dinner Speaker - Worldwide Grazing
Michael Murphy, Dairy Producer, Ireland

Thursday, July 9

Program Moderator:
Joe Horner, Dairy Economist, MU Commercial Ag Program

AM
7:00  Load Buses for Dairy Tours .......... Lobby entrance near front desk

7:30  Depart Hotel for Dairy Tours (Bus Provided)

8:00  Farm Tour #1 - VanDalfsen Farms, Reeds, MO
Owned by Bernie VanDalfsen
Farm established 1998 with 250 acres. Currently 330 acres with 284 acres for milk herd. This year will milk about 400 at peak through swing 25 parlor with auto-takeoffs. All spring freshening with calves raised on farm till October when they are sent to grower for one year. Nearly all supplemental feeds are purchased. About 120 acres can be irrigated with lagoon or river water. Forages are perennial ryegrass and novel endophyte fescue.

9:30  Travel to Next Tour

10:00  Farm Tour #2 - Wilson Springs Dairies, Carthage, MO
These two new, identical 500 cow operations are owned by Grasslands Consultants LLC.
Crossbred cows are milked in swing 50 herringbone parlors. Perennial ryegrass covers 350 acres of each farm, divided into six acre paddocks.

11:30  Travel back to Hotel

PM
12:00  Lunch provided at Hotel ............ Hotel Ballroom

All Sessions in the Missouri Room

1:30  How Low Can You Go on Supplementation
John Roche, Principal Scientist of Animal Science, DairyNZ Ltd., New Zealand

2:30  Impact of Importing Feed on the System-Management Implications
Stacey Hamilton, Dairy Specialist, University of Missouri Extension

Moderator and Producer Panel
Dale Carter, Missouri
Jeff Hayes, Missouri
Kevin van der Poel, Missouri
Friday, July 10

All Sessions in the Missouri Room

AM

8:00  Systems Impact on Health Issues
     Scott Poock, Dairy Veterinarian, MU Commercial Ag Program
     Tessa Marshall, Clinical Teaching Professor, Vet Medicine, University of Missouri

8:45  Dairy Career Paths
     Joe Horner, Dairy Economist, MU Commercial Ag Program
     Moderator and Producer Panel:
     Jeff Hayes, Missouri
     Larry Tranel, Iowa

9:30  Break (Trade Show Open) .......... Oklahoma Room

10:00 How to Economically Use Fertilizer in Pasture-Based Dairy Systems
     Rob Kallenbach, Forage Specialist, University of Missouri Extension

10:45  Tools for Managing Grass - 3-leaf, Wedge, etc.
     John Roche, Principal Scientist of Animal Science, DairyNZ Ltd., New Zealand

11:30 Bringing It All Together
     Joel McNair, Editor, GRAZE Magazine

PM

12:00 Adjourn

Optional Tours: Travel on your own - Detailed maps will be provided at the conference.

Optional Tour #1
This tour would begin by visiting Kenoma Dairy at 1:30 p.m., then traveling to Kitten Creek Dairy. Total mileage from Joplin to end would be 100 miles. Detailed maps will be provided at the conference.

Kenoma Dairy
Location: Near Kenoma, Missouri (42 miles north of Joplin)
Focal-Kenoma Dairy is a 700 cow Jersey based herd on 590 acres. Novel fescues and perennial ryegrass are the predominate forages on this spring seasonal operation. Adjacent to the Kenoma milking platform is the heifer support block for both Kitten Creek and Kenoma operations.

Kitten Creek Dairy
Location: Near Harwood, Missouri (58 miles north of Kenoma Dairy)
Focal-Kitten Creek North and South is a 3,000 cow crossbred- Holstein operation on 2,500 effective acres and two 50 bale rotaries. A mix of perennial ryegrasses and novel fescues are the main forages on this split calving operation.

Optional Tour #2
This tour would begin by visiting Meier Dairy at 1:30 p.m., then traveling to Edgewood Dairy. Total mileage from Joplin to end would be 52 miles. Travel will be at the discretion of the participant. Detailed maps will be provided at the conference.

Meier Dairy
Location: Near Monett, Missouri (45 miles southeast of Joplin)
Operation was a confinement dairy that converted to an 80 acre pasture-based system in 2006. The parlor is a 20+ year old double-6 herringbone with automatic takeoffs. This 65 cow dairy converted to seasonal spring calving in 2009 with the intent to add 20 to 30 head in the next 1 to 2 years. Owned by Mike and Janan Meier.

Edgewood Dairy
Location: Near Purdy, Missouri (7 miles east of Meier Dairy)
Originally planned for 200 cows, this pasture-based dairy has grown to almost 300 cows and utilizes 260 owned and 60 acres rented (280 effective acres). It has a double-20 parabone parlor with a two-stage manure handling system. Owned by Charles, Melissa, Tyler and Mikala Fletcher.