

November-December 2012  
www.kydairy.org

## Young Dairy Producer Conference Set for February 26, 2013

The 2013 KDDC Young Dairy Producer Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, February 26, at the Sloan Convention Center, University Plaza, Holiday Inn, Bowling Green.

The YDP Conference will again be held in conjunction with the KY Dairy Partners Meeting on February 27, 2013. A buffet dinner and Industry Trade Show will be featured from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. after the YDP Conference.

The KDDC will cover the cost of hotel rooms for only those dairy farmers attending the YDP Conference. A hot breakfast will also be provided for those staying over-night if they are attending the KY Dairy Partners Meeting.

We want to build on the excitement generated at the conference last year along with our fall Wisconsin tour as we look to an outstanding lineup of topics and speakers.

Nationally known speaker on cow comfort and behavior, Tom Lorenson, Alltech, Inc. will be presenting on listening to your cows. Calvin Covington, former Exec. Sec. and CEO of the American Jersey Cattle Association and National All-Jersey Inc., will be informing us on National Dairy Policy and the dairy outlook. A producer panel will discuss new technologies in estrous detection and cow motion monitoring along with fielding questions from the audience. Other topics include, Generational Farm Ownership Transitions; Using a Dashboard to calculate Cost of Production; Corn Silage Trials and Forward Milk Pricing, Know the Facts. Guaranteed information you can use!

Please contact your KDDC Area Dairy Consultant or contact Eunice Schlappi, KDA at: eunice.schlappi@ky.gov or 502-564-4983 or 502-545-0809 to learn more.

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Kentucky Dairy Partners Annual meeting to take place February 26-27  
More info and registration form on pages 9-10

NRCS Announces New Nutrient Management Practice Standard  
Find out more on page 14

## John E. Kalmey honored for Distinguished Service to Agriculture

Louisville, KY (December 7, 2012)

Shelby County dairyman John E. Kalmey has been named winner of Kentucky Farm Bureau's award for distinguished service to agriculture. He was honored during the organization's 93rd annual convention at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville, receiving an engraved watch and plaque.

Kalmey, 88, was raised on a Jefferson County dairy farm. He moved the operation to Shelby County in 1949, shortly after the death of his father. After starting his own operation with 25 cows and 189 acres, Kalmey slowly but steadily improved the operation while also becoming involved with various industry groups. He became one of the state's most accomplished and well-known dairymen.

His son, John C. Kalmey, currently runs the operation, which consists of 485 acres and a milking herd of 120 head.

Kalmey's service to agriculture is extensive. He has been a director of Shelby County Farm Bureau, member and chairman of the state Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) Committee, chairman of the Shelby County Ag Development Council, member and president of the Kentucky Holstein Cattle Club, board member and president of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association and a local leader with Dairymen Inc., which for many years was the state's largest milk marketing cooperative.

Shelby County Farm Bureau President John Wills describes Kalmey as "someone who has always been open and willing to do anything to make agriculture better."

Kalmey is known for embracing new technologies and techniques. In 1945 he installed one of the first hay driers in a barn loft. In 1948 he became one of the first farmers



John E. Kalmey (center) received the 2012 Distinguished Service to Agriculture award at the organization's 93rd annual meeting, held in Louisville. The award was presented by David S. Beck, KFB Executive Vice President (left), and Mark Haney, KFB President (right).

Cont'd on page 12

# Stop THE CYCLE OF Scours



**W**hat causes calf loss?... Scours, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. As the leading cause of pre-weaned heifer calf deaths, calf scours account for 36 percent of all death losses between birth and 30 days of age. Losing a Holstein heifer calf can cost approximately \$300, which during this current economic climate can leave some serious implications on the profitability of any dairy operation. As cold winter temperatures set in, these costs and working to prevent calf scours are at the top of every dairy producer's mind.

Scours can be caused by viruses, bacteria and parasites. Disease conditions are created when these agents damage the villi that line the intestinal tract. This damage prevents normal absorption of fluids and nutrients. Weather is one the biggest outside influencers to newborn calves, along with difficult births, poor sanitation, and the reduced health status of the mother. When these conditions are present and the calf's resistance to disease is lowered, the induction and overload of e-coli and salmonella are more likely to cause lowered production, and possibly death.

What can producers do to help prevent this problem from continually creeping into calving season? The quick answer is: Stop the cycle! These are some general

control measures producers can follow:

1. Minimize the accumulation of drainage water mixing with dry manure, which creates a haven for bacterial growth.
2. Clean water troughs regularly and protect them from manure contamination.
3. Reduce chances of feed contamination from rodents and birds.
4. Avoid hauling dead animals or manure in front end loaders used for feeds.
5. Minimize visitor entry to the barns to prevent cross contamination.
6. Utilize herd health programs set by the veterinarian.
7. Keep healthy cows out of hospital pens.
8. Do not use calving pens as sick pens.
9. Insure proper feed preparation to prevent contamination from manure.
10. Pay attention to cleanliness of dry lots, holding areas, calving facilities and feeding areas.
11. Use iodine on navels.
12. Minimize exposure to pathogens at birth by using products that help to clean the gastrointestinal tract of the cow prior to calving.
13. Keep the calf dry and away from manure and urine accumulation.
14. Utilize a colostrum management program set by your veterinarian and/or nutritionist

Practicing good management has been a key factor to the success at Greden Dairy in Altura, MN. According to Ross Greden, co-owner of a 240 heifer calf operation, he has always believed in good supervision, cleanliness, consistency, preventative measures and free choice water to ensure optimum return on investment. However, Greden also knows nutrition can play an important part in calf health.

After discussing Alltech's Dairy Advantage Program with his Famo Feeds representative, Greden decided to incorporate one of the program's products, Bio-Mos®, into his nutrition program. Besides seeing a decreased need for antibiotics and a reduced number of days sick, Greden was also able to measure a significant reduction in calf death.

"Bio-Mos is a cost-effective product for us because it is a tool that has helped us decrease calf mortality and we have saved money in antibiotic costs," Greden said.

The Alltech natural solutions for dairy are aimed directly at optimizing rumen efficiency and maintaining animal health as well as reducing mastitis, lameness and fertility issues. For more information, contact your local Alltech sales representative or e-mail [AlltechDairyAdvantage@alltech.com](mailto:AlltechDairyAdvantage@alltech.com).



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**KDDC**  
176 Pasadena Drive  
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KY Milk Matters produced by Carey Brown



## President's Corner

Bob Klingenfus

High feed cost recently placed dairy and livestock producers in a position where little if any profit could be made. But was it the high feed cost or the inability for farmers to quickly pass on this higher cost? If \$8 corn and \$600 bean meal were to continue years into the future would our milk prices adjust? How long would this take? Is there any way to protect ourselves while milk and feed prices adjust? Does higher purchased feed cost make our raised crops, pasture, hay crops, and silage more valuable as a feed source? If we have inflation how long will it take to pass on higher cost for fuel, electric, equipment, vet and other services?

Last June I could have purchased a futures option to buy corn for \$6.25/bu. for \$0.06 per bu. I didn't, but it would have provided me protection at little cost from \$8 corn. This contract would have protected me while milk prices had time to adjust to the higher feed cost. Options, futures, forward contracting are all a new game for me. I don't like to lose and this game scares me when I don't fully understand the rules. This one option alone could have probably saved me \$12,000 or \$100/cow in feed cost. This \$12,000 would have been on top of any MILC or Farm bill Payment.

The margins built into the new farm bill are very low to survive on. How long will margins need to be low before a payment will kick in, and how much longer before an actual payment is made? Will we lose money for six months

before a payment is made? The ability to supplement farm bill payments may be the key to long term survival.

In the past I have relied heavily on the prepayment of expenses and booking of inputs and this has served me well. I believe it is much more likely that input prices will rise than go down. I don't have the answers but I believe we all need to look for ways to protect our dairy as the market place makes adjustments to likely higher input cost. Some forward pricing for milk contracts will probably be a must for me in the future, but right now until I understand it I will have be drug into this kicking and screaming. The ability to protect our profit margin short term, while input cost and milk prices adjust will likely be a key to our individual survival.

## Going GREEN in 2013???

There is a new On-Farm Energy Program starting in 2013 funded by the Kentucky Agricultural Development Fund. This program is available to any Kentucky farmer that is interested in making energy efficient upgrades to their farm. It will consist of a 50 percent reimbursement incentive that caps out at \$15,000 per farm. Prerequisites include an energy audit performed on the farm and project to be started after January 1, 2013.

If this is something you are interested in contact your local KDDC Dairy Consultant to help you get started. For more details on the KADF On-Farm Energy Program you can also contact Angie Justice at the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 564-4627.



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# CPC 26-20

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Nicholasville, KY

### MEDICATED

For the control of coccidiosis caused by *Eimeria bovis* and *Eimeria zuernii* in replacement calves.

#### ACTIVE DRUG INGREDIENT

Lasalocid\* (as lasalocid sodium)..... 30 mg/pound  
Equal to.....60 g/ton

\*BOVATEC® brand of Lasalocid is a registered trademark of  
Alpha Pharma Inc.

#### GUARANTEED ANALYSIS

Crude Protein, Minimum.....	26.00%
Crude Fat, Minimum.....	20.00%
Crude Fiber, Maximum.....	0.15%
Calcium, Minimum.....	0.75%
Calcium, Maximum.....	1.25%
Phosphorus, Minimum.....	0.70%
Vitamin A, Minimum.....	15,000 IU/lb
Vitamin D <sub>3</sub> , Minimum.....	7,500 IU/lb
Vitamin E, Minimum.....	100 IU/lb

# CPC 20-20

## CALF MILK REPLACER WITH SEL-PLEX™ and BIO-MOS®

Sel-Plex™ and Bio-Mos® are registered trademarks of **Alltech**,  
Nicholasville, KY

### CALF MILK REPLACER MEDICATED

For the control of coccidiosis caused by *Eimeria bovis* and *Eimeria zuernii*  
in replacement calves.

#### ACTIVE DRUG INGREDIENT

Lasalocid (as lasalocid sodium).....45 mg/pound  
Equal to.....90 g/ton

\* BOVATEC® brand of Lasalocid is a registered trademark of Alpha Pharma, Inc.

#### GUARANTEED ANALYSIS

Crude Protein, Minimum.....	20.00%
Crude Fat, Minimum.....	20.00%
Crude Fiber, Maximum.....	0.15%
Calcium, Minimum.....	0.75%
Calcium, Maximum.....	1.25%
Phosphorus, Minimum.....	0.70%
Vitamin A, Minimum.....	35,000 IU/lb
Vitamin D <sub>3</sub> , Minimum.....	7,500 IU/lb
Vitamin E, Minimum.....	150 IU/lb

*Also Available in a Partial Egg Protein Version*  
**Ask about the many other calf management products  
available from CPC!**

## CPC CALF COMMAND with NeoTec®

### MEDICATED

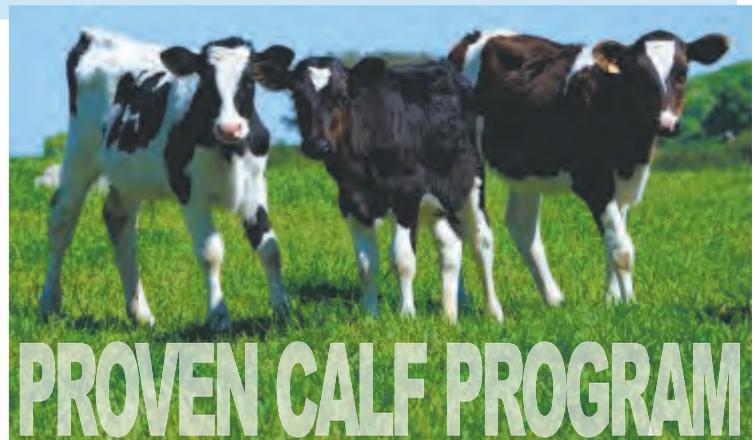
For the prevention of coccidiosis caused by *Eimeria bovis* and *Eimeria zuernii*.

#### ACTIVE DRUG INGREDIENT

Decoquinatate ..... 45 g/ton  
( 0.005 %)

#### Guaranteed Analysis

Crude Protein	(Min)	18.0 %
Crude Fat	(Min)	3.0 %
Crude Fiber	(Max)	3.3 %
ADF	(Max)	4.3 %
Calcium (CA)	(Min) 1.18	(Max) 1.45 %
Phosphorus (P)	(Min)	0.55 %
Salt (NaCl)	(Min) 0.30	(Max) 0.80 %
Potassium (K)	(Min)	1.10 %
Selenium - Total (Se)	(Min)	0.30 ppm
Vitamin A	(Min)	6,000 IU/lb
Vitamin D	(Min)	2,000 IU/lb
Vitamin E	(Min)	50 IU/lb



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## Executive Director Comments

Maury Cox



“I don't get no respect.” Practically everyone recognizes that famous line made popular by former, funnyman and actor Rodney Dangerfield. Whenever he got on stage the audience would break into laughter and applause as the comedian would tell self-debasing stories and then chide with that memorable line, “I

don't get no respect.” That line resonated with me recently as I was thinking about the present state of national dairy policy. It seems every time I've pressed Washington insiders to get a “feel” of where Congress is on dairy policy the responses are vague and ambiguous. One thing we can all agree on regarding dairy policy, it is not a simple matter.

The decision by the House to take no action before the election on the new Farm Bill had big consequences for KY dairy farmers.

It discontinued the Milk Income Loss Contract letting it expire at the end of October while offering no alternative safety net for dairy, unless one counts the sometimes available pilot program, LGM-Dairy Insurance. The critical issue unaddressed was and continues to be, dairy farmers are reeling from extraordinarily tight margins resulting from extreme drought and a national renewable energy policy which exacerbates limited grain supplies. This inaction is putting some dairy farmers at extreme financial risk with little or no alternatives. And if no action is taken by December 31, 2012, as some have suggested, milk pricing could return to the 1949 law of “parity pricing”, which could drive the hundredweight price of milk to more than \$38.00. Although a few farmers have semi-jokingly admitted it wouldn't hurt for a month or two, they don't want the bad publicity that comes with where the retail gallon price will land.

Although a few Congressional spokespeople have said an extension of the 2008 Farm Bill is the most likely option, this begs the question of reimplementing of the MILC and if so, at what level? The original plan did not incorporate a feed adjuster calculation which considered corn, soy and hay prices. With milk prices being where they are today, reinstating the original MILC program would be no help.

The other option is to pass the new Farm Bill which incorporates the Dairy Security Act. This dairy policy incorporates a voluntary marginal insurance program called the Dairy Producer Marginal Protection Program coupled with a program which is a form of supply management called the Dairy Market Stabilization Program. Although participation in the DPMPP is voluntary, if a producer signs up to have marginal insurance coverage, it is mandatory to participate in the supply management program. This requires producers to cut production when certain margin prices are triggered. Dairy producers are split on the DSA and processors are strongly opposed to this option.

The most significant obstacle for Congress to agree on a Farm Bill has little or nothing to do with farming. Nearly 80 percent of the Farm Bill expenditures go to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP, better known to most as “food stamps.” According to USDA, in 2011 this program paid out benefits of \$71.8 billion going to 14.91 percent of the U.S. population. As of November 9, 2012 the USDA reported 47.1 million people receive assistance through the SNAP. The number of recipients is growing rapidly every year as more people qualify to receive benefits. It certainly complicates matters for getting a good Farm Bill enacted when the debate isn't even on what's most important to those affiliated with agriculture.

Finally let me end by saying, the KDDC continues to keep in contact with our Congressional Delegation. Our goal is to let them know how dairy producers are doing and also to educate them on the potential affects different policies might have on KY dairy farmers. But the most important work of KDDC is to help in any way possible, increase profitability at the farm, improve milk quality and enhance quality of life for KY producers. Many times that is done by introducing one farmer to another. That's where most of the good things happen. We will continue to work hard to keep you informed

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

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Above: Penta 5620 HD

Left: Penta 4120 HD



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# Precision Dairy Showcase Presents the Future of Dairy Farming



By Amanda Sterrett (Graduate Research Assistant at the University of Kentucky)

The University of Kentucky hosted a Precision Dairy Showcase on December 3, 2012. Precision Dairy Farming is the use of technologies to measure physiological, behavioral, and production indicators on individual animals to improve management strategies and farm performance. Precision Dairy Farming technologies monitor changes in individual animal parameters, alerting the farmer to check a specific cow. These technologies are often used to detect health and estrus events. They enhance a producer's intuition and knowledge by providing more detailed information than human observation alone.

Dr. Jeffrey Bewley, Assistant Extension Professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, created the event to provide a setting where dairy farmers, industry professionals, students, and researchers could come together to discuss the use of Precision Dairy Technologies in research and on farms. "We are doing quite a bit

of research with multiple technologies at the UK Coldstream Dairy," Bewley said. "This event provided a chance for industry and producers to see these new technologies in action."

Bewley led the discussion by providing an overview of Precision Dairy Farming, explaining the importance and potential of the field. Ten experts from Animal and Food Sciences, Biology, and Engineering spoke, followed by ten students who conduct research at the University of Kentucky using Precision Dairy Technologies.

Presentation topics included:

- Estrus detection
- Nutrition monitoring
- Disease detection and surveillance
- Image analysis
- Sleep monitoring
- Producer adoption concerns
- Real time location systems
- Precision milking



- Behavior monitoring and cow comfort
- Temperature monitoring
- Heart rate monitoring

The last presentations were from two Kentucky dairy producers, who discussed their experiences with the Precision Dairy Farming technologies used on their farms. In the afternoon, meeting attendees traveled to the University of Kentucky's Coldstream Dairy farm where several technologies were featured.

Ninety attendees, about one-third from out-of-state or out-of-country, traveled to the event. Meeting attendees were able to interact and discuss ideas over lunch and dinner, catered by the University of Kentucky Dairy Club as a fundraiser.

## Back To the Future

By Meredith Scales

Alltech's 28th annual Global 500 was held December 4-6, 2012 at the Lexington Convention Center with over 750 dairy and beef producers in attendance from 40 countries. This was a great opportunity for dairy producers with varied backgrounds, yet with common interests to network, share experiences, and discuss plans for profitability for 2013 and beyond.

Dairy producers experienced a unique way to find answers to their questions and generate creative thinking. Some of the topics presented were (1) What are today's challenges in animal agriculture production? (2) Where do we need to invest our resources? (3) How to target performance and profitability. (4) What will animal agriculture look like in the future? And (5) can sustainability be achieved?

The earth's population has grown from seven billion to 9.3 billion in the past forty years. Alltech's message was to demonstrate its commitment to develop ways to naturally produce food, feed, and fuel in order to sustain the earth's population in the future. They said this must be accomplished with limited farm land, water, crops and other natural resources.

Conference speakers said there must be new technologies developed to maximize production, limit waste, recycle, and affect the earth's environment as little as possible. Alltech identified



three pillars for successful dairy farming in the future: Efficiency, Profitability and Sustainability. In order for these three things to occur Alltech stressed we must pioneer innovative methods of dairy production. We must be willing to adapt, have curiosity, and take charge to make the changes necessary to be successful.

This year's event once again provided attendees with a great opportunity to learn new ideas and to visit old friends. We appreciate Alltech's continued support and dedicated to KY's dairy and beef industries.

## How Do You Energize Your Business?

**F**or dairy producers, it's getting together with other fellow dairy producers. It's connecting, sharing, learning... it's RECHARGING.

"RECHARGE" is the theme for the 2013 PDPW Business Conference, March 12-13 at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, Wis.

When you attend, you'll feel the surge of energy while among the nation's most innovative and progressive dairy producers in one place, ready to learn.

Positive energy will be flowing throughout our keynote sessions, our breakout sessions and the Hall of Ideas Trade Show. There are plenty of opportunities for you regardless if you are a fellow dairy producer or one of the industry's preferred suppliers who exhibit in the Hall of Ideas Trade Show area.

Mark your calendar and plan to be in Madison, Wisconsin, March 12 & 13, 2013.

It will be the most dynamic dairy event you will ever attend.

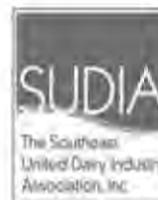
It is designed to challenge, engage and recharge even the savviest dairy professional!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET "RECHARGED?" Is this something that you would be interested in attending with other Kentucky dairy producers?

The KDDC would like to hear from you. We are interested in putting together a van or small bus of 15 to 20 KY dairy farmers that would like to attend this event. If enough interest is generated, we will work to secure up to 50 percent sponsorships for attendees including transportation, conference fee and over-night stay. Without sponsorship, the conference cost is \$350 for PDPW non-members for the two days. Lodging will run approximately \$95.00 a night. We would leave KY on March 11, 2013 and return on March 14, 2013.

This is one of the most dynamic, progressive dairy conferences in the world. If you are interested please contact KDDC at [kddc@kydairy.org](mailto:kddc@kydairy.org) or 859-516-1129. Please contact KDDC as soon as possible. Reservations will be on first come/first serve basis. In order to secure sponsorships and transportation the deadline for contacting KDDC will be January 31, 2013.

## Kentucky Dairy Partners Annual Meeting



Dear Prospective Exhibitors & Attendees for the 2013 Kentucky Dairy Partners Annual Meeting:

We invite you to be an exhibitor at the 6th annual Kentucky Dairy Partners Meeting on February 26 & 27, 2013. The Kentucky Dairy Partners Meeting includes the University of Kentucky Dairy Extension, the Kentucky Dairy Development Council, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and SUDIA/ADA of Kentucky. We are proud to be presenting this joint effort for Kentucky's dairy industry.

The meeting will again be held at the **Sloan Convention Center**, 1021 Wilkinson Trace, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

There is a room block available at the hotel under "Kentucky dairy" at a rate of \$95/night. To make reservations, please call the Holiday Inn, Bowling Green at 270-745-0088.

New this year, the trade show will be open from 6:00 - 9:00 pm (central time) the evening of February 26. There will be a reception/buffet dinner in the trade show area for all trade show participants and the 150+ dairy farm family members who will be there that day for the KDDC Young Dairy Producers Conference and the SUDIA/ADA Board meeting.

You will be able to set up between 2:00 and 6:00 PM on that Tuesday afternoon (February 26).

The trade show and conference registration will open at 8:00 am on the morning of Wednesday, February 27. The program will begin at 9:30 AM. There will be a break in the morning and time to view exhibits during the extended lunch. The day should conclude about 3:30 PM.

Your exhibit space will be a skirted 8 foot table. If you have other needs for your exhibit, please let us know so that we can try to accommodate those needs. If you need electricity, please bring your own extension cords. The exhibitor fee is \$300 which entitles you to one exhibit space, free buffet dinner on Tuesday night, (1) free breakfast on Wednesday morning, and (1) free conference registration. **(Please see registration form for exceptions for KDDC Platinum and Gold Sponsors.)** If additional members from your organization are attending, there will be a \$15 charge for breakfast and \$30 conference registration fee (no charge for buffet dinner on Tuesday evening). The registration form is included with this letter. We will also have door prize drawings throughout the day. Please let us know if your company would like to provide a door prize.

Something else new this year – we will be hosting a silent auction to benefit UK Dairy Student Projects. Donated items will be greatly appreciated!

The information is also located on the University of Kentucky website at <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/afsdairy/extension/kydairypartners> or on the KDDC website at [www.kydairy.org](http://www.kydairy.org) Please look here for more information regarding the agenda and the exhibitor forms.

Booth reservations will be handled by Eunice Schlappi, Kentucky Department of Agriculture again this year. Please send your completed registration to Eunice. If you have questions, please contact her at 502-564-4983 or cell at 502-545-0809.

Sincerely,

Kentucky Dairy Partners Planning Committee

Registration form  
on page 10

**Kentucky Dairy Partners Annual Meeting (2013) – Exhibit & Conference Reservation Form**

Name of Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Others Attending:  
 (Name & Email) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Booth & Conference Registration:**

\_\_\_\_\_ = \$300 Booth space\* – includes booth space, (1) breakfast ticket & (1) conference registration  
 \*Platinum KDDC sponsors – free booth space, (1) free breakfast & (1) free conference registration  
 \* Gold KDDC sponsors - \$200 booth space, (1) free breakfast & (1) free conference registration  
 \*no charge for government, educational, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_ = no charge reception/buffet dinner in trade show area Feb 26 x \_\_\_\_\_  
 (number attending)

\_\_\_\_\_ = \$15/person breakfast in Trade Show area February 27 x \_\_\_\_\_  
 (number attending)

\_\_\_\_\_ = \$30/person conference registration (per person) x \_\_\_\_\_  
 (number attending)

\_\_\_\_\_ = Total amount enclosed - Please make checks payable to: Kentucky PDCA  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Yes, we would like to provide a door prize - list item: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, we would like to provide a silent auction item for UK Dairy Student Projects – list item: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Please answer the following questions to help us better accommodate you.</b>	
What type of display do you have? (i.e. full floor, table top, pull ups, other)	
How much space does the booth require?	
Do you need electricity?	

Return registration & checks (checks written to: KY PDCA): Kentucky Department of Agriculture - Eunice Schlappi  
 100 Fair Oaks Lane-5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Frankfort, KY 40601

# Youth or Dare

*By Teri Atkins*

Did you know that the current generation is 3-5 generations removed from agriculture? Most people don't!

On a brisk, late October day, the University of Kentucky Dairy Club and the Department of Animal and Food Sciences put on a Saturday course at Coldstream Dairy, called Dare to Dairy. The course was designed to inform and educate Kentucky's youth on how a cow works on the inside and out. The UK professors and graduate students spoke on different dairy emphasis such as udder health, reproduction, nutrition, cow comfort and technologies. However the topics were not near as fascinating to hear about as they were to see! Each one of the sessions allowed the kids to have true hands-on experiences. Although most of the participants had seen a dairy cow before, they were not all raised on a dairy farm. The youth need to learn more about a dairy to become ambassadors for a shrinking and often criticized industry. They need to help spread the word on the work needed to get your milk from the farm to the consumer, and how we do that with good animal welfare and food safety as top priorities.

Dr. Bob Harmon, the AFS department chair, spoke to the groups about udder health. He had an udder on a table for the kids to feel and visually examine the extensive tissues involved in the milk making process. For those of you that milk, if you have never had the opportunity to see the inside of an udder, you need to. It will help you better understand where and how milk is made and how crucial it is to prevent udder disease. Dr. Joe O'Leary, Professor of Food Science Extension, showed the kids various products that are produced from milk and how they are made.

Reproduction, a very important topic to dairy farmers, was covered by several different presenters. Dr. Bill Silvia had two reproduction

tracts for the kids to inspect. Dr. George Heersche spoke to the groups about artificial insemination, bull traits and tools needed to successfully perform AI. Joey Clark and Karmella Dolecheck were able to show the children how and why to use an ultrasound machine for pregnancy verification in dairy cattle. To the attendees, being able to see what happens on the inside of a cow before and while a calf is growing was a great example of why dairy cattle need extra special care.

Dr. Donna Amaral-Phillips, dissected a digestive tract of a mature cow to show all of the compartments of cow's stomach; the omasum, abomasum, rumen and reticulum. During this presentation the children were able to put their hand into a working rumen on a live heifer. The heifer was equipped with a fistula for digestive research. Dr. Jeffery Bewley and Amanda Sterrett touched on the topic of body condition scoring, which is linked to nutrition also. The youth were given several animals to body score so they could see the difference between good and bad, or thin and heavy. But Dr. Bewley went on to explain other health issues to look for to assure adequate care of dairy cattle. A cow may not speak English; however their body language speaks loudly if you really watch.

Graduate students, Barbara Wadsworth and Elizabeth Eckelkamp, spoke to the groups about cow comfort, a topic that many consumers are most worried about these days. They were able to show the students the difference between waterbed mattresses, regular stall mats and compost bedded pack barns. They explained how to properly do a locomotion score on cattle. A locomotion score can be another "cow signal" that can alert a farmer of a health issue. The children were able to pick out cows from the UK herd that had good and bad locomotion scores.

And last, but not least were the technology demonstrations given by Dr. Bewley, Amanda Sterrett and Di Lang. The groups were able to see the different technologies at work on Coldstream Dairy and how they can improve dairy herd management in a practical way. Some of the technologies being used at UK are also being used on local Kentucky dairies.

## A Dairyman's Discussion

*By Dave Roberts*

A meeting was held November 14<sup>th</sup> at Brian Peden's dairy in Barren County. It was organized by David Sammons and sponsored by the Green River DHIA Association. The purpose was for dairy producers to get together to discuss practical ideas and management techniques used on their operations.

Evidently the format of producers discussing topics with fellow producers sounded appealing. More than forty turned out for what would be some very informative discussions. The topics discussed by local dairymen David Sammons, Clint Waddell, Ben Davis, Jeremy Kinslow, and Brian Peden included somatic cell count management and DHIA.

David Sammons, Green River DHIA Association President, described practical uses of DHIA and how he uses it to manage his herd. David also announced that Kentucky DHIA is offering a significant discount to any herd owner who attended the meeting that wants to try DHIA testing including individual cow somatic cell counts.

A dairy can be profitable and be milking a small number of cows if you can limit inputs and maintain production of quality milk. This was Clint Waddell's philosophy and the way to keep that milk quality is to keep your cows, "high and dry." Clint's high and dry philosophy, holds true from the new born calf to the mature cow and helps account for his 150,000 SCC.

After a lunch sponsored by Burkman Feeds, Ben Davis gave the group a brief

history of Triple B Dairy which started in 2009 and currently milks 325 cows. A new addition to the Davis farm calf raising program is an automatic calf feeder. Ben said that has made calf raising much less labor intensive. The next speaker was Jeremy Kinslow who said that, "clean cows, correct milking procedures, and cow comfort make our 215,000 SCC possible." The Kinslows milk 750 cows and have both freestall and compost bedded pack barns. Last to speak was the host dairyman Brian Peden. Brian also gave an overview of his dairy and noted that attention to detail, cow comfort, milking procedures and use of DHIA records contributed to his 23,783 RHA and 186,000 SCC.

This meeting provided an excellent example of dairy producers helping each other explore ways to produce quality milk and better manage their herds.

Cont'd from page 1

to purchase a hay mower conditioner. He has employed a variety of conservation tillage practices. He has boosted breeding stock through several methods, including artificial insemination and the use of Dairy Herd Improvement Records. His late wife, Nina Mayfield Kalmey, kept the farm's financial and herd records.

Kalmey is a staunch advocate for preserving farmland. For many years he has been a host for the Leadership Shelby County farm tours that are aimed at promoting agriculture education and support from community leaders. His farm also has played host to a variety of other promotional events for agriculture.

"He has been a strong and active member of our agriculture community for many years," Wills said. "He's been a great ambassador for the dairy industry and for the Holstein people. He's very well respected in many areas. He's one of those great individuals who make your community better."

One of Kalmey's close friends is Ray Moss Tucker of Finchville, who served as President of Dairymen Inc.

"I've known John ever since we were in 4-H together showing cattle at the state fair," Tucker recalled. "And our kids have showed cattle together. He is one fine individual. An absolute ambassador for farmers. And a very good dairyman. He always had an excellent herd."

As a leader of the Dairy Herd Improvement Association, Kalmey helped implement programs to bolster the quality of dairy production in the state. He strongly supported an automated testing system for butter fat and sematic cell counts.

Friends say Kalmey is especially proud that his three children are college graduates: John C. has a degree in animal sciences, and twin daughters, Joyce and Janet, have master's degrees in education. Today, John runs the farm and the sisters are retired school teachers.

With nearly 500,000 member families statewide, Kentucky Farm Bureau is the state's largest general farm organization. Approximately 1,700 members attended KFB's 93rd annual meeting, December 5-8, to recognize this year's individual and organizational achievements as well as adopt policy for 2013.

# Welcome Dairy Producers to the 2012 KCA Convention & Ag Industry Trade Show & KDDC Board Meeting



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## Kentucky Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Establishes New Nutrient Management Practice Standard

The KY Ag Water Quality Authority (KAWQA) was appointed by the Governor as part of the Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act enacted by the 1994 General Assembly. The Authority is responsible for developing and supporting a statewide agricultural water quality plan. The plan is an effort to produce a practical, flexible, coordinated natural resources management system that protects the waters of the Commonwealth while complying with regulations.

The statewide Ag Water Quality Plan was approved by the KY Division of Water in 1996. All landowners who meet the following criteria are required by the KAWQA to establish individual Ag Water Quality Plans:

- Farming or forestry operations on a tract of land situated on ten (10) contiguous acres or more, and
  - Used for the production of livestock or livestock products, or
  - Used for the production of silviculture products, or
  - Used for the growing of crops, or
  - Land that is part of a federal or state agriculture cost share

program

In 2001, the Authority added KY NRCS's nutrient management practice code (KY-590) to the Ag Water Quality Plan. It required landowners to develop a nutrient balance for their farm. The plans utilized a nitrogen based approach until phosphorus levels reached 400lbs/acre soil test phosphorus. At this point, additional applications of phosphorus could be added at crop removal rates or at half crop removal rates as phosphorus levels built up in the soil. The cutoff for no further phosphorus application was set a 1066 lbs/ac. A phosphorus index was a part of the old standard but planners rarely ever chose to use it.

After much discussion about the planning and implementation requirements of the new 590 standard, the KYAWQA voted in November to remove the KY NRCS 590 standard from the Ky Ag Water Quality Plan. Conservation Districts as well as the University of Kentucky will now assist landowners with nutrient management plans as part of their Ag Water Quality Plan requirements. The plans will continue to be based on a nutrient balance on a field by field basis. New cutoff levels and setback for application fields are currently being developed.

Most dairy producers would need the new KY nutrient management plan as a part of their KY Ag Water Quality plan. However; some producers will need to follow the new KY 590 for federal permitting. Also, producers who voluntarily request financial and technical assistance from NRCS for nutrient management practices will be need to meet the new KY-590 standard. Producers who need a NRCS CNMP or NMP can

*Continued on page 15*

Continued from page 14

receive assistance from EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program.)

The new national NRCS practice standard 590 was unveiled in December of 2012. KY NRCS had one year to accept the practice standard and to develop the related tools. A KY-590 working group consisting of NRCS, UK, KYDOW, KYDOC, and ARS met many times over the last year to further develop the standard. The group could not edit it to make it less restrictive. The new standard will be effective January of 2013.

**Highlights of this new KY NRCS 590 practice standard include:**

• Utilizing crop rotations which reduce soil losses to the acceptable soil loss tolerance level on nutrient application fields. For HEL Compliance, most producers only have to meet 2 times the soil loss tolerance (T) requirement. Changes in crop rotations would require a plan to be updated to the most recent crop rotation to see if soil loss "T" requirements were being met.

• Implementing a new Phosphorus Index (risk assessment) on all fields which receive nutrients. The new index will assess all possible losses of Phosphorus from a field. Phosphorus application rates will be reduced as risk goes up. High risk allows a maximum of 400lbs of soil Phosphorus per acre, Moderate risk allows a maximum of 600lbs of soil phosphorus per acre, and Low risk fields can apply until soil

test Phosphorus levels reach 800lbs/acre. Risk rates can be improved by adding practices that reduce the risk of phosphorus transport from a field.

• Using a Nitrogen leaching index tool to assess Nitrogen leaching risk of the field. Fields which have a high leaching risk will need treatment to reduce Nitrogen leaching to acceptable levels. (see picture which includes both nitrogen and phosphorus tools)

• Rates and timing of applications to tile drained fields would be required to reduce nutrient losses.

• Air Quality will be considered during the planning process.

• Utilizing manure application setbacks developed by the KAOQA when planning NRCS NMP's and CNMP's.

• Training and certifying of NRCS nutrient management planners will be required as a part of NRCS policy and KY590 implementation. Plans can only be written by Certified NRCS employees or Certified NRCS Technical Service Providers.

**Outreach:** Public meetings to discuss the new KY Ag Water Quality Plan requirements and current NRCS requirements will be held in 2013. KY AWQA Nutrient Management Training and KY NRCS 590 training will start in January and will continue into the summer of 2013. The trainings will be for UK employees, Conservation District employees, NRCS employees, NRCS (TSP's) Technical Service Providers, and for prospective TSP's. Questions regarding the new KY NRCS 590 standard can be directed to Randy Smallwood at 859-224-7329 or Tibor Horvath at 859-224-7413.



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# One Voice, One Family

By Teri Atkins

That was the slogan used this year at the Kentucky Farm Bureau 93<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting held in Louisville, Kentucky on December 5-8. And what an easy way to summarize what the agriculture industry in Kentucky has to do to be successful; we must pull together as one and make sure we are heard.

The KFB annual meeting drew in close to 1,700 participants from all across KY with delegates representing all 120 counties. The Convention kicked off on Thursday, December 6 with 10 commodity and special interest meetings covering a diverse range of topics. There was also a tradeshow featuring agriculture associations and businesses, the KFB County Activities of Excellence and student agricultural science displays. At noon, during the Commodity Luncheon, the audience received comments from Commissioner of Agriculture, James Comer and a keynote address from Craig Jagger, Principal and Founder of Legis Consulting, LLC, in Maryland. The session ended with LeeAnn Jones, a young lady from a dairy in Marion County, being honored with the KFB Agriculture Science award for her dried spices project.

Friday was a day of recognition that began with an annual address from KFB President Mark Haney. One recipient was well-known KY dairyman, John E. Kalmey, who received the KFB 2012 Distinguished Service to Agriculture award. Kalmey relocated his dairy from Jefferson County to Shelby County in 1949 where he began building a family farm with only 25 cows and 189 acres. The dairy has grown to 120 cows on 485 acres and is still running; however it is now being operated by his son, John C. Kalmey. Also recognized were Ryan and Misty Bivens of LaRue County for KFB 2012 Outstanding Young Farm Family and Scott Travis of Spencer County for the 2012 KFB Farmer of the Year. There were other numerous awards presented. Later U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell addressed the crowd regarding national issues impacting agriculture in KY.

Festivities ended on Saturday after the annual Public Affairs Breakfast, the final general session and elections for directors and officers by voting delegates. Mark Haney, Pulaski County, was re-elected as KFB President after serving them well for the last four years. Also re-elected were Eddie Melton, Webster County, as First Vice-President and J. Fritz Giesecke, Hart County, as Second Vice President. Although the KFB annual meeting is over, the above officers and all delegates will be working toward being the voice of agriculture in KY.

# The KY Milk Matters Media Kit

The Kentucky Dairy Development Council would like to announce The Kentucky Milk Matters newsletter is now offering advertisement opportunities!

The Kentucky Milk Matters newsletter is the ONLY bi-monthly dairy publication that goes directly to EVERY permitted dairy farm family in KY. The newsletter is also distributed to Allied Industry field staff, UK Cooperative Extension Agents, KY Congressional Delegation and KY State Legislators, dairy suppliers, milk haulers, feed companies, government agencies and many more. There are more permitted dairy farms in KY than any state in the Southeast United States.

Subscribers can place information about their products and/or services directly in the hands of decision makers on KY dairy farms at very affordable prices. Advertisements can be in black and white or color and with several options of sizes. Your ad can be placed once or stay out in front of buyers by being in all six issues during the year. Special discounts for KDDC Allied Industry dues Members.

Contact your local KDDC Dairy Consultant or call 859-516-1129 to learn more. You can also contact the KY Milk Matters newsletter editor Carey Brown at 859-948-1256.

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- The Newsletter is available through email and KDDC Website
- The Milk Matters provides up-to-date news and information on production, industry and dairy policy
- Dairy farming is a vital economic industry in many communities across the state
- Promotes KY dairy farmers and dairy products
- Every farm gate dollar produced by dairy is multiplied by 2.56 as an economic generator to KY communities
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## KDDC Proud Sponsor at the North American

The Kentucky Dairy Development Council was a proud sponsor of the 2012 Dairy Show at the North American International Livestock Expo. KDDC provided the monetary awards to the Junior Supreme Heifer and Supreme Champion Cow winners.



The Junior Supreme Heifer, Adams Creek Adacka Maria, photo in order from L to R Maury Cox, Jr. owner, Alyssa Nuttleman, Corinne Fetter, and David Sparrow.



The Jr. Supreme Champion Cow, Shady Row Dundee Daphne, photo in order from L to R Eric Topp, Maury Cox, Pat Conroy, Chris Lahmers (half hidden) Julie Butler Hemp, Coy Campbell, owner, Corinne Fetter, David Sparrow, Craig Padgett, and Doug Murray.



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## 2013 Dairy Calendar of Events

### January

January 5 KY General Assembly convenes for four days  
January 10-12 Kentucky Cattlemen's Association Convention, Lexington, KY  
January 11 KDDC Board Meeting, KCA Convention, 10:00 A.M. Lexington, KY  
January 22-23 Southern Dairy Conference, Hilton Garden Inn Atlanta Airport North, Atlanta, GA  
January 23 SUDIA, Scientific Advisory Board Annual Meeting – Directly after SDC, Hilton Garden Inn  
Atlanta Airport North, Atlanta, GA

### February

February 5 KY General Assembly reconvenes to hear proposed legislation  
February 7 Agricultural Legislative Appreciation Reception, KSU Farm, Frankfort, KY  
February 13 KY Proud Legislative Breakfast, Frankfort, KY  
February 13-16 National Farm Machinery Show, KY Fair & Expo, Louisville, KY  
February 26 KDDC Young Dairy Producer Conference, University Plaza, Holiday Inn, Sloan Convention Center,  
Bowling Green, KY  
February 27 KY Dairy Partners Conference University Plaza, Holiday Inn, Sloan Convention Center, Bowling Green, KY

### March

March 11-13 Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin, Dairy Business Conference, Madison, Wisconsin

### April

April 4-5 Dairy Calf & Heifer Conference, Lancaster County Convention Center in Lancaster, PA  
April 5-6 KY National Show and Sale, Louisville, KY