

ANOTHER LOOK AT 2X-3X MILKING

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2x-3x milking continues to be a source of discussion among dairy producers. New DHIA and DBAP information is available that makes an updated analysis possible. The data shows that:

- C 3X producers sell 17% more milk per cow
- C 3X cows have lower somatic cell scores and 8% more heats detected
- C increased labor cost of 3X was \$.14 per cwt.
- C the added production reduced most operating and all ownership expenses on a per cow and per cwt basis: especially feed costs which were \$.34 per cwt. less on 3X dairies
- C lower total cost of production: \$.33 per cwt.
- C more profitability: about \$155 per cow per year

Dairy Business Analysis Program 2X-3X comparison

Factor	2X	3X
Number of cows	1,081	2,239
Number of dairies	9	11
Milk per cow (lb. sold/cow/ year)	14,365	16,819
Personnel cost/cwt	\$2.66	\$2.80
Feed cost/cwt	\$7.68	\$7.34
Crop cost/cwt	\$.31	\$.21
Machinery cost/cwt	\$.77	\$.79
Livestock cost/cwt	\$2.03	\$1.86
Marketing cost/cwt	\$1.28	\$1.11
Real estate cost/cwt	\$.47	\$.49
Other cost/cwt	\$1.49	\$1.77
Total cost/cwt	\$16.69	\$16.36
Income per cow	\$-37.43	\$118.60
Assets per cow	\$4,714	\$3,968
Return on assets	-6%	2%

DBAP 1995