FLORIDA DAIRY
BUSINESS CONFERENCE
September 8, 2008
Marion County Extension Service, Ocala, Fl.
Planned and sponsored by the Dairy Advisory Committee

10:00 Registration
10:15 Welcome, Russ Giesy

10:20 THE U.F. COMMITMENT TO TEACHING, RESEARCH AND EXTENSION IN A NEW ERA. Dr. Dusky will update us on the U.F. budget realities and reaffirm the university’s commitment to strong programs. Dr. Joan Dusky, UF Associate Dean for Extension.

10:30 CROSS BREEDING OPPORTUNITIES. Rapid shifts in management systems on U.S. dairy farms coupled with selection for extreme milk yield has resulted in a decline in reproductive performance, cow health and herd life. Herd managers are now considering crossbreeding to better match cow genotype with herd management system to improve performance. Dr. Chad Dechow, Penn State Dairy Science.

11:00 SQUEEZING THE MOST MILK OUT OF YOUR FEED DOLLARS. The primary topic of 2008 is our high feed costs. This presentation will focus on feed efficiency, getting the best bang for the buck. Randy Cragoe, Cragoe Consulting, Inc., Brookings, South Dakota.

11:30 LEARNING CHINESE FOR FUN & PROFIT. You don’t need to speak Chinese or Japanese or any of 100 other languages because you’ve already hired some folks who can represent you. And represent you they do. Learn all about how US dairy exports to countries around the world are reshaping our industry. Jerry Dryer, Editor, Dairy & Food Market Analyst.

12:00 lunch break sponsored by our agribusiness supporters
12:45 The 2008 Dairy Community Award presentation

1:00 DBAP REPORT: EFFECT OF TYPE OF FEEDING SYSTEM ON COSTS OF SOUTHEAST DAIRY FARMS. Mary will present the results of a sort of DBAP dairy farm participants by type of feeding system. With feed costs sky-rocketing, what can we learn about profitability of DBAP herds fed total mixed rations versus grazing versus one-shot feeds? Dr. Mary Sowerby, UF Extension Dairy Science

1:20 FEEDING YOUR COWS CHEAPER: PERENNIAL vs. ANNUAL FORAGES Comparisons will be made of forage production from warm-season grasses vs. summer annuals, also, single vs. double cropping systems. Dr. Newman will discuss their production, nutritive value, and how well do they meet the nutritional needs of the herd. Dr. Yoana Newman, Forage Specialist, UF Agronomy Department.

1:40 MILK QUALITY IS MORE THAN SCC AND SPC, IT IS NOW SHELF LIFE. Dave will discuss the components of shelf life and present ideas on which milk tests provide us the most information. Dave will also discuss the obstacles to successful implementation of quality incentives and compliance programs. Dave Bray, UF Animal Sciences.
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2:00  FACING COW MANAGEMENT DECISIONS WITH THE NEW COST OF PRODUCTION ON SOUTHEAST DAIRY FARMS. Milk prices are changing and feed costs are record high. We will explore how these prices might affect your day to day cow management decisions such as feeding, breeding, dryoff and cow replacement. Dr. Albert De Vries, UF Animal Sciences

2:20  break sponsored by our agribusiness supporters – thank you!

2:45 OPPORTUNITIES TO ENHANCE REPRODUCTION, COW HEALTH AND HERD LIFE WITHIN BREED. So, you are convinced that crossbreeding is for you? Dr. DeChow will discuss the opportunities we have within breeds to seek the genes and performance we desire. Dr. Chad DeChow, Penn State Dairy Science.

3:15 REDEFINNING DAIRY HERD EFFICIENCY IN OUR NEW ECONOMIC CLIMATE. Randy will discuss how our herd management needs to evolve the next Farm Bill and other policy/pricing issues will affect the region in the years to come. He brings a national perspective on regional issues. Randy Cragoe, Cragoe Consulting, Inc

3:45 DBAP REPORT: NOW IN ITS FOURTEENTH YEAR, CAN DBAP HISTORICAL DATA SUGGEST FUTURE ECONOMIC VIABILITY? Russ Giesy UF Extension Dairy Science

4:00 DAIRY PRODUCER PANEL: CONTROLLING COSTS IN TODAY’S NEW ECONOMY; HOW WE PLAN TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE.

Early registration is free but we need to know how many lunches to order. So, free lunch to those who call Jeanne at 352-793-2728 before 12 noon Friday, 9/05. After that time or on the day of the program, dinner will be $15.00. Speakers and sponsors do not need to call.

Directions to the Marion County Extension Service  
2232 NE Jacksonville Road, Ocala  
352-620-3440

1. Exit interstate 75 at exit #354 onto route 27
2. proceed east into Ocala, 27 becomes Blichton Street, then NW10th Street
3. after 2.5 miles (from 75), turn left (north) onto 301/441
4. after .5 mile, turn right (east) onto route 200A or NE20th street (watch for signs for the Livestock Pavilion)
5. after .5 mile, turn left (north) into the Livestock Pavilion & Extension Complex parking area. The meeting will be in the auditorium located on your right as you enter the facility.

For more information, contact Russ Giesy at office @ 352-793-2728 or cell = 352-978-9083