

UF DAIRY PROGRAM REVIEW

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This year marks the first year of the officially combined Dairy and Poultry Sciences Department. The combination resulted in some overall reduction in overhead costs; it is unlikely that it will result in any major operational changes for dairy programs.

In an attempt to attract more private money to aid in modernizing and building new buildings, the State is offering a straight dollar-for-dollar match in amounts of \$100,000 or greater. This year we were able to take advantage of two such matches. The first will allow for a new barn which will contain an animal handling facility for intensive research while the remainder of the building will house herd cows. The second match supplied by Eli Lilly will be used to construct a new calf and heifer rearing facility.

A plan is being designed in which the Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources, and the department, would obtain money to replace the milk check-off money for one year so that the SHARE check-off dollars could qualify as a match. This would allow us to carry out as much research as we have been and yet at the same time get matching money to replace some of the obsolete buildings at the farm. This is another example where the support of UF dairy research by dairymen has led to additional support from other sources, thus multiplying their investment. This looks like one of those once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.

We are pleased to announce that Mike Casey and Miracle Feeds/McNess joined our contributors to "The Milk Bottle Fund". This fund was established several years ago as an endowment fund; the interest income is used to support scholarships and graduate assistantships. With the pledge of \$2,500 the donor receives a handsome wall plaque which displays a milk bottle from the former UF Dairy. More than 25 dairymen and supporters of the department proudly display these plaques. We still have a few bottles left for generous dairymen and suppliers.

The Milk Check-Off committee continues to dedicate their time to ensure that top quality, high priority projects are funded each year. Present members are:

Nick Bishop	John Larson
Perry W. Bishop	Steve Mattox
Robert L. Butler, Jr.	Tommy Rucks, Jr.
Rick Dressel	Connie Sauls
Gerald Fieser	Ron Skelton
Ed Henderson	Ron St. John
James Henderson	Rodney Land

This past year the following projects were funded:

- 149 1. Braun - Vet School Scholarships
- 150 2. Umphrey/Bachman - 4-H Dairy Activities and Youth Events, Judging Team Support, Undergraduate Programs and Scholarships, National 4-H Dairy Judging Team and Florida Youth Programs
- 151 3. Bray - Environmental Modifications for Reducing Summer Stress on Florida Dairy Farms
- 152 4. Thang/Bray - Automatic Data Collecting System on Vacuum Fluctuation and Water Temperature (Phase IV Project)
- 153 5. Natzke - Milk Check Off Recovery Costs
- 154 6. Graetz - The Role of Denitrification in Protecting Ground Water Under Dairy Effluent Irrigation Systems.
- 155 7. Umphrey/Glauer - Youth Discovering Variety in 4-H Dairy Science Curriculum
- 156 8. Brown/Mislevy - Influence of Grass Species, Maturity and Additives on Ensiling Characteristics and Feeding Value of Grass Silage
- 157 9. Staples/Sollenberger/Graetz - management Strategies and Water Quality Concerns of Rotational Grazing Dairy Systems in Winter
- 158 10. Archbald/Vaillancourt/Thatcher/Kelbert/Tran/Risco - Sub-Clinical Uterine Infection in Dairy Cows
- 159 11. Dechant/Braun/Staples - Lameness in Florida Dairy Cows: A Comprehensive Study
- 160 12. Dechant/Donovan/Braun/Brown/Brown/Buergelt - The Prevalence of Mycoplasma bovis in Florida Dairy Cattle and Its Role in Causing Inner Ear Infections and Respiratory Disease in Dairy Calves
- 161 13. Brown/Brown - Rapid Detection and Identification of Mastitis Bacteria in Milk
- 162 14. Thatcher/Hansen/Drost - A Comparison of Conception Rates Between Frozen Embryos Produced in Vitro From Calves and Artificial Insemination During Heat Stress Months
- 163 15. Thatcher/Staples - Utero-Ovarian Responses by Lactating Dairy Cows Fed Menhaden Fish Meal (Sealac) or Formaldehyde Protected Fats (Rumiteck)
- 164 16. Brown/Mislevy - Influence of Grass Species and Additives on the Ensiling Characteristics and Feeding Value of Grass Silage

The organizing committee decided to change the format of the conference this year; we hope that you will enjoy it.