

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 45<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
**FLORIDA DAIRY  
PRODUCTION  
CONFERENCE**

Hilton University of Florida Conference Center  
Gainesville • Florida • April 29, 2008



**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
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IFAS Extension

Sponsored by the Department of Animal Sciences, Florida Cooperative Extension Service and the Agricultural Experiment Station of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, with the cooperation of State Dairy Organizations and Allied Industry



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Department of Animal Sciences

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Gainesville, April 29, 2008

To: **Florida Dairy Producers, Allied Industry and Others**  
Re: **45<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Dairy Production Conference**

Welcome to the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Dairy Production Conference! This conference provides an opportunity for representatives from all aspects of the Florida Dairy Industry to focus on information and ideas for improving profitability and sustainability of the Florida dairy industry.

The planning committee has planned this program in hopes that you will take home some information that will be of benefit in the planning and operation of your business. The speakers have been chosen with careful consideration for subject matter of timely significance. We believe that their information will be useful to you.

The proceedings are provided as a reference and record of the conference. Additional copies are available by contacting the UF/IFAS Department of Animal Sciences. You will also find the proceedings posted on the Florida Dairy Extension website at <http://dairy.ifas.ufl.edu>.

Thank you for your participation in the 2008 conference. Please feel free to provide any comments that can be used in planning future Florida Dairy Production Conferences.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Geoffrey E. Dahl'.

**Geoffrey E. Dahl**  
Chair, Department of Animal Sciences

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Albert De Vries'.

**Albert De Vries**  
Coordinator, 45<sup>th</sup> Florida Dairy Production Conference

# 45<sup>th</sup> Florida Dairy Production Conference

Tuesday April 29, 2008

Hilton University of Florida Conference Center  
1714 SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
Gainesville, FL 32607

## Planning Committee

The Florida Dairy Production Conference is organized by the dairy extension specialists and dairy agents at the University of Florida / IFAS. For more information about the Florida Dairy Production Conference, please contact:

### Conference Information

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### Conference Sponsorships

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### Conference Registration

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These proceedings were edited by Penny Ann Canino and Albert De Vries. Proceedings from past Florida Dairy Production Conferences are available at the Florida Dairy Extension website at <http://dairy.ifas.ufl.edu>.

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## Program Schedule

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**Tuesday, April 29, 2008**

**Florida Dairy Production Conference**  
**Century Ballroom, UF Hilton Hotel, Gainesville**

AM

*Presiding – Jose Santos, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville*

9:45 Welcome

*Geoffrey Dahl, Chair, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville*

10:00 Feed Efficiency Opportunities with 2008 Feed Cost

*Michael Hutjens, Department of Animal Science, University of Illinois, Urbana*

10:50 A.I. Technology is Changing Rapidly!! (Molecular Genetics and Sexed Semen)

*David Thorbahn, General Manager & Exec. Vice President, Select Sires, Inc., Plain City, OH*

11:45 Southeast Milk, Inc. Check-Off Summary  
Florida Dairy Youth Program Update

*Brent Broaddus, IFAS Extension, University of Florida, Seffner*

PM

12:00 Luncheon and Milk Quality Awards

*Presiding – Peter Hansen, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville*

1:00 UF/IFAS Dairy Update

*Geoffrey Dahl, Chair, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville*

1:10 Feeding Management to Reduce the Environment Impact of Dairy Farms

*Robert James, Department of Dairy Science, Virginia Tech. University, Blacksburg*

2:00 Southeast Milk, Inc. Check-off Summaries

Development of a High Fertility Timed Insemination Program for Dairy Heifers

*William Thatcher, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville*

Is Testing Cows for Disease Resistance a Practical Tool for Managing Health in Dairy Cows?

*Art Donovan, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Florida, Gainesville*

Effect of Rust Infestation on Silage Quality

*Adegbola Adesogan, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville*

2:45 Refreshment Break

3:15 Direct Comparison of Natural Service vs. Timed AI: Reproductive Efficiency and Economics

*Carlos Risco, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Florida, Gainesville*

3:45 Sexed Semen Economics

*Albert De Vries, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville*

- 4:15 Sire Selection and Use of Gender-Biased Semen  
Producer Panel – *Participants: Don Bennink, Eddie Fredrikson, Jacob Larson*  
Moderator: *Peter Hansen*
- 5:00 Reception - Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar are available for your enjoyment
- 

**Wednesday, April 30, 2008**

**DRU Open House**  
**UF Dairy Research Unit, Alachua**

- AM  
9:00 DRU Overview  
*Jay Lemmermen, DRU General Manager*
- DeLaval Parlor and Afikim Milk Lab  
*Eric Diepersloot, DRU Herd Manager*
- Calf Unit  
*Sherry Hay, DRU Calf Unit Manager*
- Comparisons of Sand Free Stalls and Dual Chamber Waterbeds  
*David Bray and Ray Bucklin, Departments of Animal Sciences and Agricultural and Biological Engineering*
- Using Enzymes to Improve Milk Production by Dairy Cows  
*Adegbola Adesogan, Department of Animal Sciences*
- Digester  
*Ann Wilkie, Department of Soil and Water Sciences*
- Heat Stress Abatement for Dry Cows: Does Cooling Improve the Transition to Lactation?  
*Geoffrey Dahl and Bruno Cesar do Amaral, Department of Animal Sciences*
- Dairy Business Analysis Program  
*Russ Giesy and Mary Sowerby, IFAS Dairy Extension*
- Effects of Fatty Acids on Immunity and Reproductive Efficiency in Postpartum Holstein Cows  
*Lokenga Badinga and Cristina Caldari-Torres, Department of Animal Sciences*
- 12:00 Adjourn

## Dairy Production Conference Speakers and Program Participants

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**Adegbola Adesogan**, Associate Professor, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**Bon Bennink**, Dairy Producer, North Florida Holsteins, Bell, FL

**Brent Broadus**, Extension Agent II, IFAS Dairy Youth Program, University of Florida, Seffner, FL

**Geoffrey Dahl**, Professor and Chair, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**Albert De Vries**, Associate Professor, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**Art Donovan**, Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**Eddie Fredriksson**, Dairy Producer, ATR Dairy, Mayo, FL

**Peter Hansen**, Professor, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**Michael Hutjens**, Professor, Department of Animal Science, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL

**Robert James**, Professor, Department of Dairy Science, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

**Jacob Larsson**, Dairy Producer, Larson Farms, Okeechobee, FL

**Carlos Risco**, Professor, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**William Thatcher**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

**David Thorbahn**, General Manager and Executive Vice President, Select Sires, Inc. Plain City, OH

## 2008 Program Sponsors

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***We thank the following sponsors who provided support for the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Dairy Production Conference***

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