

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 46<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
**FLORIDA DAIRY  
PRODUCTION  
CONFERENCE**

Hilton University of Florida Conference Center  
Gainesville • Florida • April 28, 2009



**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
**FLORIDA**  
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**

Gainesville, April 28, 2009

To: **Florida Dairy Producers, Allied Industry and Others**  
Re: **46<sup>th</sup> Annual Florida Dairy Production Conference**

Welcome to the 46th 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 2009 conference. Please feel free to provide any comments that can be used in planning future Florida Dairy Production Conferences.



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



**Albert De Vries**  
Coordinator, 46<sup>th</sup> Florida Dairy Production Conference

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

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Hilton UF Conference Center  
1714 SW 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
Gainesville Florida

## Planning Committee

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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 Ashley Sanders 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 28, 2009

Florida Dairy Production Conference

Century Ballroom, Hilton UF Conference Center, Gainesville Florida

- AM** Presiding:  
*Dave Bray, University of Florida, Gainesville*
- 9:45 Welcome  
*Geoffrey Dahl, University of Florida, Gainesville*
- 10:00 Surviving Low Milk Prices  
*Greg Bethard, DRMS, North Carolina State University, Raleigh*
- 10:45 Environmental Challenges Ahead for the U.S. Dairy Industry  
*Wendy Powers, Michigan State University, East Lansing*
- 11:30 A Bankable Business Plan for Manure Digestion in Florida  
*William Jorgenson, SJH and Co., Boston, MA*
- 12:00 **Luncheon**
- PM** Presiding:  
*Charlie Staples, University of Florida, Gainesville*
- 1:10 Five Key Factors that Determine the Success of Transition Cow Management Programs  
*Ken Nordlund, University of Wisconsin, Madison*
- 2:00 Basics Concepts of Monitoring Reproductive Performance  
*Mike Overton, University of Georgia, Athens*
- 2:35 **Refreshment Break**
- 3:05 Lameness Caused by "Thin Soles" in Dairy Cattle  
*Jan Shearer, University of Florida, Gainesville*
- 3:40 Lessons Learned from Grazing Dairies  
*Steve Washburn, North Carolina State University, Raleigh*
- 4:15 Grazing and Alternative Dairy Production Systems  
*Producer Panel*  
*Moderator: Jose Santos, University of Florida*
- 5:00 **Reception**  
*Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar are available for your enjoyment*



## Dairy Production Conference Speakers and Program Participants

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**Greg Bethard**, Assistant Director for Dairy Technology, Dairy Records Management Systems, North Carolina State University, Raleigh

**Dave Bray**, Extension Agent IV, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville

**Geoff Dahl**, Professor and Chairman, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville

**William Jorgenson**, Managing Principal, SJH and Co., Boston, Massachusetts

**Ken Nordlund**, Clinical Professor, Department of Medical Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Wisconsin, Madison

**Mike Overton**, Associate Professor, Department of Population Health, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Georgia, Athens

**Wendy Powers**, Professor, Department of Animal Science, Michigan State University, East Lansing

**Jose Santos**, Associate Professor, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville

**Jan Shearer**, Professor, Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Florida, Gainesville

**Charlie Staples**, Professor, Department of Animal Sciences, University of Florida, Gainesville

**Steve Washburn**, Professor, Department of Animal Science, North Carolina State University, Raleigh

## 2009 Program Sponsors

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