

Somatic Cell Count Limit To Drop

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Most dairymen have little difficulty meeting the maximum 1,000,000 somatic cell count (SCC) as now required. Few will have any problem meeting the new maximum of 750,000 SCC per milliliter starting July 1, 1993.

This reduction was approved by the state regulatory delegates at the IMS conference in April and is expected to be approved by the Food and Drug Administration.

Between 10 percent and 15 percent of dairymen now produce

Average Farm Feed Costs For Handy Reference

To help farmers across the state to have handy reference of commodity input costs in their feeding operations for DHIA record sheets or to develop livestock feed cost data, here's this week's average costs of various ingredients as compiled from regional reports across the state of Pennsylvania. Remember these are averages so you will need to adjust your figures up or down according to your location and the quality of your crop.

Corn, No. 2y - 2.74 BU. 4.90 CWT.

Wheat, No. 2 - 2.75 BU. 4.59 CWT.

Barley, No. 3 - 1.62 BU. 3.47 CWT.

Oats, No. 2 - 1.32 BU. 4.12 CWT.

Soybeans, No. 1 - 5.95 BU. 9.94 CWT.

New Ear Corn - 69.32 BU. 3.47 CWT.

Alfalfa Hay - 102.50 BU. 5.13 CWT.

Mixed Hay - 98.75 BU. 4.94 CWT.

Timothy Hay - 90.50 BU. 4.53 CWT.

FOCUS

Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association

Pennsylvania DHIA news is presented in FOCUS each week in cooperation with Dixie L. Burrie, manager of membership development.

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milk with a SCC of 100,000 per milliliter or less. They get maximum potential milk production from their cows; use fewer antibiotics and dump less drug residue contaminated milk; and realize highest prices for their low SCC/higher protein content milk.

Herds with 1,000,000 or even 750,000 SCC per milliliter are dealing with mastitis, animal stress and reduced milk production of as much as six to eight pounds of milk per animal per day.

There is no public health concern about this milk following pasteurization. The primary concern is for dairymen who are not getting maximum production and thus have lower income from the

sale of milk.

Any dairyman with SCCs above 100,000 per milliliter would realize greater income by reducing it. Those few with SCCs above 750,000 need to start to reduce their SCC.

Contact your approved inspector, DHIA supervisor, county extension agent, veterinarian, milking machine serviceman and dairy laboratory.

Learn about the corrective measures that are needed and start to take action.

You, the dairy farmer will receive the greatest benefit by reducing the SCC of your milk.

How Does Your Herd Compare?

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — This data is pulled from Pennsylvania DHIA's mainframe computer each week. It is a one-week summary representing approximately one-fourth of the herds on test, as they are tested monthly.

These data are valuable from a business management standpoint and can be used for comparing your operations to the averages from almost 1,400 herds across the state.

DHIA Averages for all herds processed between 7/29/91 and 8/05/91

Number of Herds Processed	1,403
Number of Cows Processed	80,296
Number of Cows Per Herd	57.2
Milk Per Cow (Lbs)	17,714
%-Fat	3.67
Fat Per Cow (Lbs)	650
%-Protein	3.18



Three-year-old Jason Troutman found churning ice cream tough work during the Ice Cream Churn-Off Contest held at Ag Progress on August 14. But Jason's hard work paid off. He and his parents, Connie and Scott from Mohrsville in Berks County, captured first prize — \$300 — for their fresh peach ice cream. Read more about the Churn-Off in next week's issue of *Lancaster Farming*.

Protein Per Cow (Lbs)	564
Average Days in Milk Per Cow	316
*Feed Cost Per Cow Per Year(\$)	
A: Grain	550
B: Hay	106
C: Silage	229
D: Pasture	18
*Total Feed Cost Per Cow Per Year(\$)	905
*Income Over Feed Costs Per Year(\$)	1,336
*Grain to Milk Ratio	1:2.4
*Feed Cost Per CWT Milk(\$)	5.11
Avg Level For 1159 SCC Herds	420,131
<small>*Member generated figures</small>	

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