

# GLENN'S UDDERINGS

(Continued from Page A30)  
 tions as to why production dropped so much. See Table 2.

increased 42 days from December to June. This alone would cause cows to produce less milk, but

words, about one half of the 16.4 pound drop could be attributed to advanced days in milk.

Let's look at Table 3 for another example. Average days in milk were lowest in October and highest in April, 127 days compared to 205. Daily milk per cow in October was 72.5 pounds; it dropped to 61.3 pounds in April. It would be easy to conclude that the herd was doing much more poorly in April.

When we adjust for differences in days in milk and compare the 150-day production figures, we discover that the herd was actually doing better, by 4.8 pounds — not more poorly as the 11.2 pound drop might lead you to think.

improvement of feeds, udder health, etc. Later in the year, as days in milk increase for this example herd, the opposite trend occurs; the 150-day milk averages decrease more slowly than does the actual test-day averages.

Table 2. Comparing Production Drops

Month Tested	Days in Milk	Daily Milk (Milking Herd)	Standardized 150-Day Milk
Dec.	150	74.2	74.1
June	192	57.8	65.8
Difference	42	16.4	8.3

Looking at Table 2, you will notice that average days in milk how much less? In this example, about 8.3 pounds less. In other

Table 3. Comparing Days in Milk

Month Tested	Days in Milk	Daily Milk (Milking Herd)	Standardized 150-Day Milk
Oct.	127	72.5	68.1
April	205	61.3	72.9
Difference	78	-11.2	+ 4.8

In Table 1, as we analyze days in milk and % (cows) in milk, we conclude that this is a seasonal-calving herd. Cows start calving around October. During the calving season, average days in milk is relatively low and actual test-day milk per cow increases rather substantially. The 150-day milk averages increase more slowly and are a truer reflection of production increases that are associated with cooler weather, or perhaps with an

Use these 150-day averages as you and your consultants attempt to accurately evaluate production trends in your herd.

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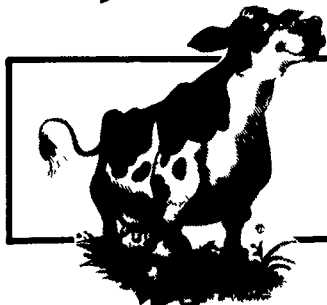
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