

**GLENN'S
UDDERINGS**

By
Glenn A. Shirk

Lancaster Extension
Dairy Agent

SCC Patterns By Lactation No.

In an attempt to analyze the herd's udder health status it is helpful to study infection patterns by lactation number, stage of lactation and seasons of the year. My last column focused on herd SCC trends by stage of lactation and by seasons of the year.

Near the center of the Raleigh Herd Summary Report is a table that groups the herd by 1st lactation, 2nd lactation, and 3+ lactations. A portion of that table is shown below. I labeled it as Table 1.

Table 1

	NUMBER OF COWS	AVERAGE AGE	AVG PEAK TEST DAY PROD	PROJECTED ME 305 DAY			SOMATIC CELL COUNT FOR CURRENT MONTH										
				MILK	FAT	PROTEIN	% COWS SCC SCORE										
							0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1ST LACT	34	23	69	22488	848	766	72	6	11								
2ND LACT	30	36	90	23260	866	799	74	10	3								1
3+ LACTS	58	59	101	24134	899	835	78	16	4	2							1
ALL LACTATIONS	122	43	89	23424	876	805	76	11	8	1							4

Table 1, in this example, shows a disturbing trend. Normally, we expect two-year-olds to be relatively free of mastitis. In this example we see problems in the 1st lactation group. Almost one-fourth (22%) are severely infected; 11% have code 5 level of infections and another 11% are very severely infected at SCC codes of 7 and above!

This causes one to ask, what happened in the two-year old group that caused them to be so high? Were a lot of these heifers sucked? Did you make changes in your heifer program over the last two years — housing, feeding, etc? Are the 1st lactation cows housed, fed and managed separately from the older cattle? Were they exposed to different bedding materials? Did they have a lot of calving problems? Whatever the cause, the problem merits immediate attention.

Individual Cow SCC's by Test Date

There are several places where you can conveniently compare test-day SCC data for individual cows. In the Penna. system, these comparisons can be made on the Monthly Lactation Report and on the SCC Management Report. Both of these reports show cow's SCC codes for the last test day.

On the Raleigh system test-day SCC comparisons for individual cows can be made on the

Monthly Report (DHI-200 or the DHI-210 report) and on the SCC Custom Management Report. The DHI-200 Monthly Report and the SCC Custom Management Report. The DHI-200 Monthly Report and the SCC Custom Management Report show codes for this test day as well as for the previous test day. The DHI-210 Monthly Report lists SCC codes for the last 10 months. A section of the DHI-210 report is shown in Table 2.

Table 2

SOMATIC CELL COUNT SCORE AND MILK WEIGHTS BY TEST DAY												LCT NO	STATUS			INDEX NUMBER	
TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH	TEST MONTH		DATE CHANGE	MO	DAY		CODE
10	11	12	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	1990							
SCCS	SCCS	SCCS	SCCS	SCCS	SCCS	SCCS	SCCS	SCCS	SCCS	% PROT							
MILK	MILK	MILK	MILK	MILK	MILK	MILK	MILK	MILK	MILK	% FAT							
4	3	5	3	3	1	4	1	3									
81	86	74	61	68	53	45	31	27	DRY				7	12	3		2
5	6	4															
			DRY	DRY	61	58	49	42	35	35			2	16	2		5
				2	3	2	3										
								DRY	51	40	38						16
	3	1	4	5	7	6	6	6	7	33							
DRY	68	71	53	49	54	42	35	32	23	41	38		10	14	2		27
2	2																
			DRY	DRY	85	76	79	69	65	61	34		2	25	2		32
					4	3	3	4									
									DRY	FRESH			7	16	2		36
8	4	6							5	4	0						
			DRY	DRY	DRY	51	46	53	43	40	38		3	24	2		46
									3	2	25						
									54	42	30		5	28	6		69
				1	2	1	2		NO MILK								
									DRY WEIGHTS	38			7	5	2		89

The 10-month comparisons can be very useful, which I will try to illustrate with several examples. Cow 5 has had elevated counts both lactations. She went dry with a code 4 and freshened with a code 5, and continued to climb for 2 months. Is she chronic and did she fail to respond to dry treating? Or, was she not dry-treated? Was she treated after the 3rd test and was it successful? Did cow 32 pick up an infection at calving time? Cows 16 and 89 have consistently good scores.

The DHI-210 report can help you evaluate the effectiveness of various mastitis treatments on individual cows.

Not A Treatment Guide

The SCC information on your DHIA reports reflects what has happened in the past and may not be a true indication of individual cows infection status. Thus, it should not be used as a guide for deciding which cows to treat. However, it is an excellent guide for spotting problem and suspect cows that need to be cultured or checked with a CMT paddle or by various other methods.

The DHIA SCC data is very good in revealing trends and infection patterns, which is useful when troubleshooting udder health problems and when evaluating herd management practices.

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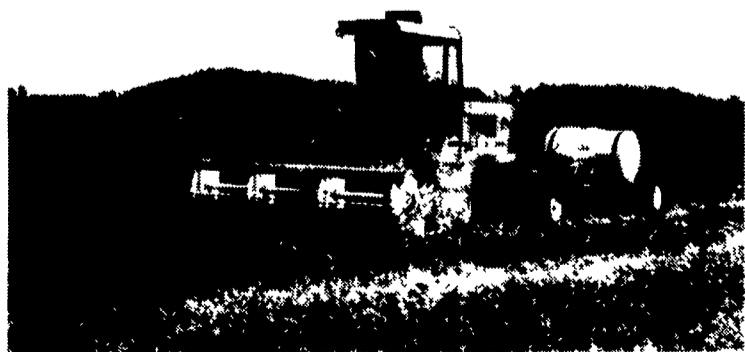
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HAY CHEMICALS AND APPLICATION EQUIPMENT

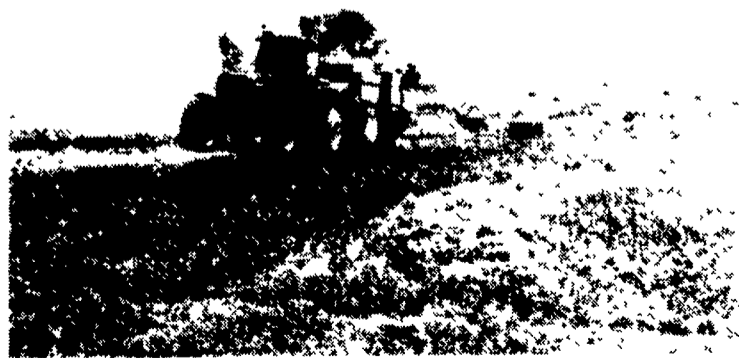
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