

Cornell Dairy Records Accepts Information Electronically

ITHACA, N.Y. — Dairy producers can choose to send herd information to Cornell Dairy Records from anywhere. They are no longer tied to a dairy records processing center (DRPC) because of their location.

This change came about at the 1993 National Dairy Herd Improvement Association (NDHIA) Convention when delegates supported a bylaws proposal that

removes geographic barriers between dairy producers and their choice of DHI membership organization. As a result dairy producers wishing to change processing centers needed a method to easily transfer herd information.

NDHIA worked with the processing centers to set up a uniform method of electronically transferring data among DRPCs. This uniform method of transferring herd

data is called the National Standard Transfer Format. NDHIA Quality Certification rules state all processing centers must complete this national format by July 1, 1994. Cornell Dairy Records has completed this National Standard Transfer Format well ahead of the deadline.

Records for a herd can be transferred to Cornell Dairy Records from another processing center once that DRPC has completed the National Standard Transfer Format. Herd information Cornell Dairy Records receives consists of name and address information, current rolling herd average information (previous if available), herd totals for a minimum of 12 tests (more if it is available), string herd totals and herd averages for individual strings. Individual cow information Cornell Dairy Records receives includes identification (cow, sire and dam), all completed lactations (305, 305 ME and 365 day records), complete record-in-progress, breeding

information from all lactations, calf information, sample day test information for all lactations (milk, fat, protein, somatic cell and linear score). The center also receives calf program information.

According to NDHIA, a processing center must make a herd's information available to the recipient processing center within two days of receiving the request.

"We lead the way in implementing a new NDHIA herd and cow record format system for herds transferring from one center to another," said Lyle Wadell, Cornell Dairy Records director. He added, "Our efforts put us months ahead of the deadline set by NDHIA."

For DHI supervisors and field technicians the implementation of the uniform transfer format means they have to complete a lot less paperwork in order to transfer a herd's data to Cornell Dairy Records.

A big plus for DHI field technicians using on-farm supervisor

entry personal computer (PC) software is that now they only have to complete a download and treat the herd being transferred into Cornell Dairy Records center as a normal herd. When they arrive at the farm the herd's information can immediately be pulled up on the PC.

Eli Riehl, a DHI field technician who now tests a former Pennsylvania herd that was transferred to Cornell Dairy Records using Cornell's new National Standard Transfer Format said, "I think it is great, I am the type of person that feels, having the modern technology we do, if you are going to do some things without paperwork why not do all without paperwork. When a field technician goes to the barn, now the herd is right in front of you and there is not a lot of guesswork."

If you have any questions about transferring herd and cow records please contact Kathy Hagin at 1-800-USA-DRPL.

Dairy Manure Handling

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application of manure nutrients at levels exceeding the crop removal rate.

General guidance and requirements for handling manure in Pennsylvania is found in the Department of Environmental Resources publication *Manure Management for Environmental Protection*.

Material and ideas about manure handling systems are available from cooperative extension offices, conservation district

offices, Soil Conservation Service offices, equipment suppliers, builders, land improvement contractors and other farmers.

Visit farms that have similar situations to yours and learn how the system is working.

Any of the above individuals can help you locate farms to visit.

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