

MUN Testing Easy

DAVID BIGELOW Training Coordinator

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Do you know if your milk urea nitrogen values are too high or too low, or in balance?

Values too high or too low suggest a nutritional imbalance. Taking care of, or fixing, a nutritional imbalance could decrease feed cost, improve production, improve body condition and minimize nitrogen pollution from animal waste.

The very next time you test your herd, you can know the answer to the MUN value question by simply asking the Pennsylvania Dairy Herd Improvement Association technician who serves your herd to put you on the MUN option. It's easy and costs 15 cents per cow.

There is no need for an additional sample to be taken to get MUN values. The milk sample currently being used to monitor fat, protein and somatic cell count can be used to monitor MUN values.

Keep in mind, once the results are received from the laboratory at Pa.DHIA, your veterinarian, feed consultant, nutritionist, extension agent, or other professional, are available to help interpret the results for your situation.

Call (800) 344-8378 if we can assist in your dairy operation.



Will Cochenour Mercer Co. Technician

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UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — Will Cochenour, a Pa.DHIA technician serving Mercer County, recently completed studies at the Pa.DHIA training seminar held in State College.

Cochenour is currently responsible for serving 16 herds which

Cochenour Finishes Training

consist of 650 cows on a monthly basis in the Mercer County area.

Prior to joining Pa.DHIA Cochenour was a customer service representative for Preston Trucking. His experience of dealing with customers and fellow employees should be of benefit in his job at a Pa.DHIA technician.

Cochenour said he enjoys working with the dairymen on his circuit.

"Getting out and meeting people, being able to set my own schedule, helping to solve and answer farmers' questions along with working hand-in-hand with the farmer to increase his production and farm income" are some of the things he said he most enjoys about his job.

Will was raised on a farm in Westmoreland County and he is currently a part-time field assistant for the U.S. Farm Service Agency in Mercer County, as well as a crop adjuster for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. This additional on-farm experience is expected to be a benefit to his service as a technician.

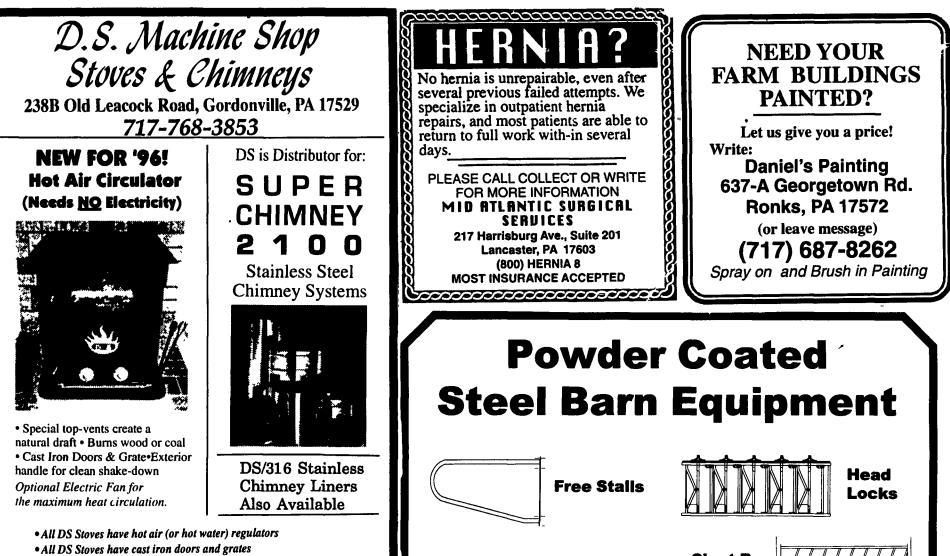
Outside of work, Will serves as a deacon for the Unity Presbyterian Church.

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 last 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 — 5.21 bu., 9.33
cwt.
Wheat, No. 2 4.43 bu., 7.39
cwt.
Barley, No. 3 — 3.39 bu., 7.26
cwL
Oats, No. 2 — 2.23 bu., 6.97
cwL
Soybeans, No. 1 — 7.64 bu.,
12.75 cwl.
Ear Corn — 137.50 ton, 6.88
cwt.
Alfalfa Hay — 115.00 ton, 5.75
cwt.
Mixed Hay — 111.25 ton, 5.56
cwt.
Timothy Hay — 122.50 ton,
6.12 cwt.



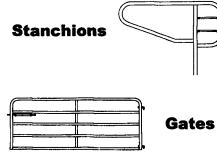
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