

**DAIRY FARM
MANAGEMENT
BASICS**

A Farm Management Course by
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Archived at Internet Home Page www.lancasterfarming.com

Foot Health - Article 34

Cows are no better than the soundness of their feet. If their feet are sore they don't feel like walking to feed and water. If they don't eat and drink, they don't milk.

- Laminitis is a major foot condition that can get started as early as calfhood. Laminitis (founder, white line disease) can weaken the hoof and predispose it to various foot infections. It can be caused by conditions that trigger the body to produce histamines, which often times end up in the hoof and interfere with its blood circulation and tissue integrity. Some conditions that can cause laminitis are
 - Feeding excessive levels of high energy feeds to calves, heifers and cows
 - Not acclimating heifers and dry cows to higher levels of grain feeding prior to calving, and bringing them onto high levels of a "hot" ration (high energy, low fiber rations) too rapidly after calving

- This can cause a buildup of acids in the rumen, due in part to the higher level of concentrates being fed. If the rumen papillae are not well enough developed and functional before calving, the cow has less ability to absorb and utilize the fatty acids that are produced in the rumen. Consequently, they can build up and cause acidosis, which predisposes the cow to laminitis and other metabolic problems.
- Cows sorting out the goodies of a TMR (usually the fines) and rejecting the coarser materials, or if feeds are fed separately, cows eating too much of one feed and not enough of another

2 Infectious foot problems There are a variety of them

- Hairy heel wart (strawberry wart) is very contagious and very painful. As the name implies, it affects the heel of the foot.
- A variety of infectious "foot rots" can affect the tender tissue between the claws, producing swellings, characteristic odors and joint swellings.

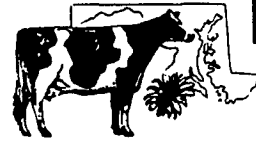
To help prevent and control these hoof infections

- Consult your veterinarian for recommendations regarding treatments, and the use of sprays and footbaths. Footbaths, if used, should be kept clean and "properly charged" to prevent the spread of infections. If footbaths are not kept clean and "properly charged" they can spread infections to other cows and make the problem even worse.
- Keep alleys and lots well scraped so cows don't have to stand in slop.
- Fence cows away from wet sloppy areas and any other spots where organisms lurk.

3 Foot injuries

- Many abscesses in the sole of the foot are caused by small sharp objects.
- Maintain lots and walkways in good order. Groove them for good footing.
- Remove debris and sharp projections.

4 Trim feet as necessary



Holstein News Letter

The Maryland Holstein Association

Anita M. Hill, Secretary-Treasurer
15029 Grimes Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727-7827
(301) 447-6473

STATE CONVENTION

When was the last time you attended a state annual meeting? Now is the time to make plans to attend the state Holstein convention and sale. Hosts for the March 12 and 13, 1999 event will be the Howard County Holstein Club. The lovely Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center, Ellicott City, will be the site of the annual meeting, ladies program, and banquet. The youth will have their own events, including a tour to USDA, Beltsville. On Saturday, the state convention sale will be held in the large indoor facility at the Howard County fairgrounds. Details and registration forms can be found in this newsletter.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE: Article IX of the by-laws concerns the order of business for Holstein meetings. The board has proposed that the election of officers be moved before the program (speaker), instead of after the program as it now stands. This change will be voted upon during the annual meeting.

MARYLAND STATE CONVENTION SALE

March 13, 1999 • 11:00 a.m. @ Howard County Fairgrounds • West Friendship, MD

Sale catalogs will be available on request after March 1st by calling Chris & Budgee Hill at 301-829-9451. There will be cattle in the sale to fit every need. Between 70 and 80 head will be sold according to sale chairman, Denny Patrick. Watch for upcoming sale ads in the February *Holstein World* and *Southeastern Holstein News*, and March *Cattle Connection* and *Farmshine*.

Other convention information

Directions

Meeting & Banquet: The Turf Valley Resort and Conference Center, Ellicott City, is located just off Route 70. From the west, take Route 40 east (Exit 82) off of Route 70. The entrance is on the left after the golf course. From the Eastern Shore, come up Route 32, go north on Route 29, then west on Route 40 to Turf Valley, on your right.

Sale: The Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship. Take Route 70 to Route 32 south, go 1/4 mile to Route 144. Go right (west) on 144 to Fairground Rd and make a right turn. Turn left into the fairgrounds and the sale will be in the last building on your left.

.....CUT HERE.....

CONVENTION TICKET ORDER FORM

Seated Business Lunch - Chicken Cordon Bleu	_____	# of persons @ \$15.00	\$ _____
Non-Meat Lenten Option	_____	# of persons @ \$15.00	_____
Seated Ladies Lunch - Chicken Cordon Bleu	_____	# of persons @ \$15.00	_____
Non-Meat Lenten Option	_____	# of persons @ \$15.00	_____
Junior Program - Meat Lunch	_____	# of persons @ \$ 5.00	_____
Non-Meat Lenten Option	_____	# of persons @ \$ 5.00	_____
Seated Banquet - Filet Mignon & Chicken	_____	# of persons @ \$25.00	_____
Non-Meat Lenten Option	_____	# of persons @ \$25.00	_____
Age 12 & Under - Meat	_____	# of persons @ \$20.00	_____
Age 12 & Under - Non-Meat	_____	# of persons @ \$20.00	_____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

List names of those attending: _____

Business Meeting _____

Ladies Program _____

Youth Program _____

Banquet _____

Phone Number _____

Mail orders to 1999 MD Holstein Convention
C/O Sharon & Phil Jones
Bowling Green Farm
1465 Underwood Rd
Sykesville, MD 21784
Phone 410-442-2679

Deadline is March 1, 1999
Money must accompany order
Make check out to:
Howard Co. Holstein Assoc.

Eastern Shore Juniors Transportation to the Junior Program at Beltsville can be arranged from the Annapolis area once junior registrations are received. Juniors would then be transported to Turf Valley for the banquet, or returned to Annapolis, as necessary. Coordinate with Gail Yeiser (h) 410-315-9812 (w) 301-405-2434.

Lodging The Turf Valley Resort is convenient, but expensive, having rooms starting at \$105 plus tax for a single, and \$120 plus tax for a double. Phone 410-465-1500. Also nearby is the small Forest Motel at 10021 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City. Phone 410-465-2090. If you are coming from a long distance and wish to stay in the central MD area overnight, your best bet may be to get a room in the Frederick area.

Exhibits & Booths Interesting and educational booths will line the walls at the convention. Space is still available for those who may be considering a booth. Contact Mark Varner (301-577-7393) or Lee Majeske (301-405-1406) right away.

A number of past MD Holstein Distinguished Junior Member record books will be on display, as well as a display of Dunloggin memorabilia.

Something new: Howard Counties are planning a "History of MD Holsteins" trivia contest. As they register, each person will be given an answer sheet. Each booth exhibitor will have questions related to the MD Holstein and Dairy Industry. As you visit the booths, you will fill in your answer sheet. The contest is open to everyone and prizes will be awarded to individuals in different age categories with the most correct answers. **HAVE FUN & SEE HOW MUCH YOU KNOW ABOUT MARYLAND'S DAIRY INDUSTRY!**

About the speaker Dr. Tom Bailey is a veterinary reproduction specialist from the Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences at Virginia Tech. As a dairy veterinarian, Dr. Bailey has traveled the USA and abroad, and is a veterinary consultant for Holstein USA. Dr. Bailey is actively involved in research on "Heatwatch", a computerized heat detection system, and with transvaginal follicular aspiration. Dr. Bailey is gifted with the ability to keep everyone interested, awake, and informed. Be sure to hear his talk!

Banquet entertainment Those attending the evening banquet will be treated to one of the most unique after-dinner programs in the country. Greg Claassen, ventriloquist, can make just about anything "talk." Greg makes about 120 appearances a year in the USA and Canada. He was a national finalist in the "Bob Hope Search for Top Talent Contest." In his spare time, Greg farms 2500 acres in Whitewater, Kansas, with his father and two brothers, raising mulo, wheat, soybeans, and corn. They have a farrow-to-finish hog operation, as well as feeder calves. Bring the entire family for an enjoyable evening.

MARYLAND STATE HOLSTEIN CONVENTION

MARCH 12, 1999 • TURF VALLEY • ELLICOTT CITY, MD

Annual Meeting

- 9:00 a.m. Registration, visit booths & exhibits
- 10:00 a.m. Annual business meeting, Breed Improvement awards, Progressive Breeder and Genetics recognition
- 12:30 p.m. Seated luncheon
- 1:45 p.m. Featured speaker - Dr. Tom Bailey, Veterinary Reproduction Specialist with VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine will talk about improving reproductive efficiency in the dairy herd, heifer development, and what's in the future in technology.
- 3-6:00 p.m. Free time to visit booths and exhibits. Short demonstration on the new "Windows" version of DHI PLUS by Stephen Smith from DHI, Provo. Time to preview the convention sale consignments at the Howard Co. fairgrounds.

Ladies Program

- 9:00 a.m. Registration, visit booths & exhibits
- 10:00 a.m. Triple Treat: Skin care products for the entire family; Create a great look with the right scarf; and Cake decorating made easy.
- 12:30 p.m. Seated luncheon - Ellicott Room
- 1:45 p.m. Featured speaker - Dr. Tom Bailey

Junior Program

- 9:00 a.m. Registration, visit booths and exhibits
- 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Board Eyre's charter bus for USDA, Beltsville. Annual business meeting, lunch and guided tours with an "environmental theme" including animal, manure, crop and soil management. Juniors will see the dairy herd (including putting hands in a cow's rumen), the manure digester, and the new composting facility.

Banquet

- 6:00 p.m. Social hour with cash bar
- 7:00 p.m. Seated dinner
- 8:00 p.m. Junior awards, scholarships, and introduction of judging and dairy bowl teams
- 8:45 p.m. Entertainment - Greg Claassen, ventriloquist from Kansas
- 9:45 p.m. Dancing - Disc Jockey