

Open House Shows Growth

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enabled farmers to receive testing results in half the time.

The building houses offices, lab, clean-up and chemical preparation, shipping, data center, meter lab, and conference room.

Mylin said the lab can turn out 700 samples per hour with two lines of equipment. The most the lab ever processed in one day was 9,800 samples.

A "recipe book" includes the formulas needed to prepare chemicals for testing. The five lab technicians change duties off and on throughout the day to prevent monotony.

Looking almost out of place next to the computerized equipment are a standard household clothes washer and dryer. The washer and dryer are used for sanitizing the vials and caps before preparing them to be reused.

Samples are delivered by U.S. Mail, United Postal Service, and by technicians who drop off samples.

Mylin credits the organization's growth to a great group of employees — 55 are on the payroll — and to the dairy people they serve.



Ruth Lohr explains that completed samples are emptied into a holding tank and spread on fields. The vials and lids are sanitized in a washing machine and ready to be reused.

The most difficult challenge for Mylin is seeing the stress dairy farmers face from the economy, government regulations, time and workload.

"We want to do all we can to help dairy farmers, and to keep

good folks on family farms," he said. "Our emphasis is on service."



Jere High said the computerized machinery reads water temperatures, and determines the beginning and ending of each herd's milk testing.



Stephanie Axe prepares vials for milk technicians.

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