



Speakers at the Dairy Alliance accounting workshop included, seated, from left, Mathew Hilton, Redwing Business Systems, Inc.; Julie Strain, Redwing Business Systems, Inc.; and Judy Kemeny, private consultant. In back from left are Michael Peachey, Miller and Miller CPAs, and Brad Hilty, Penn State Dairy Alliance.

Workshop Helps Managers Understand Best Accounting Practices

ANDY ANDREWS
Editor

MIDDLETOWN (Dauphin Co.) — Accurate financial analysis for dairying or any other business begins with sound accounting.

And there are methods overlooked by dairy farm managers that can not only streamline accounting, but also improve the bottom line.

Those were some of the messages that more than two dozen farm owners and accounting managers took home earlier this month during a special Penn State Dairy Alliance Seminar, "Accounting Methods For Progressive Dairies," conducted Nov. 4-5 at

the Penn State Harrisburg Campus.

Dairy farmers have to keep up with the times — and they are changing.

"Many farmers are operating with the same business models my father and grandfather used 50 years ago," said Brad Hilty, Penn State Dairy Alliance. "We have a business information overload. We are data rich and info poor."

Making correct use of the data — and knowing how to keep the accounting principles "in balance" — can mean many-fold improvements in profitability, according to accountants who spoke.

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