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NORTHEAST ORGANIC DAIRY PRODUCERS ALLIANCE MISSION STATEMENT

To enable organic family dairy farmers, situated across an extensive area, to have informed discussion about matters critical to the well being of the organic dairy industry as a whole.

NORTHEAST ORGANIC DAIRY PRODUCERS ALLIANCE

NODPA NEWS

MAY 2003

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Organic Industry News

NODPA Membership Dues

Dear NODPA members,

In February of this year, NODPA turned two years old! Its exciting to see how quickly NODPA has been growing: building farmer networks from state to state, coordinating annual field days events, and providing technical information, industry news and resource information through our quarterly *NODPA News*, the ODAIRY email discussion list and the NODPA web site (www.nodpa.com). We are now at a point where we need to ask you for your support in order to continue with our mission "to enable organic family dairy farmers, situated across an extensive area, to have informed discussion about matters critical to the well being of the organic dairy industry as a whole". Since NODPA first started, we have not

required a membership though we have welcomed membership contributions. Voluntary contributions have been greatly appreciated, but now we must require a minimum annual subscription in order for you, our members, to continue receiving the *NODPA News*. Please fill out the enclosed membership form with your contribution **today** so

that we can continue to grow and provide assistance for organic dairy producers in the Northeast.

How it all started: NODPA originated in February 2001 at a summit meeting of organic dairy producers in the Northeast. These producers came together to discuss critical issues within the organic dairy industry including maintaining a sustainable milk price, the National Organic Program, alternative milk markets, and building effective communication lines between fellow producers

(Continued on page 2)

Unless we receive a minimum contribution of \$20 for the 2003 year, this will be your last newsletter.

NODPA's 3rd Annual Field Days August 23, 2003, Bull Ridge Farm, Albion, ME

The Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance (NODPA) will be holding its **3rd annual field days** in central Maine this year. Henry Perkins and Henrietta Beaufait, organic dairy producers, will be hosting the event at their Bull Ridge Farm in Albion on **Saturday, August 23rd**. The day will start with opening remarks by one or more of NODPA's farmer representatives, covering NODPA's year in review and

thoughts on future directions.

The day's first session will be led by Anne Lazor and Henrietta Beaufait. Discussion will focus on methods of dry off and reproductive problems. Anne is co-owner of Butterworks Farm organic dairy and has extensive knowledge and experience in alternative treatments for dairy animals including homeopathy, herbs and nutritional supplements. Henri-

(Continued on page 3)

NODPA Membership Dues (Continued from page 1)

in the Northeast and beyond.

Since that first meeting, NODPA has:

- Created effective farmer networking on a state by state and Northeast level.
- Opened lines of communication with processors, industry representatives, and the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB).
- Organized two Annual Field Days Events with a third annual event taking place this August in Albion, ME.
- Created the *NODPA News* quarterly newsletter that goes out to over 900 producers, educators and industry people.
- Created Odairy, the organic dairy electronic discussion group, which has over 200 subscribing members. (To become

an Odairy subscriber, send an email to: odairy-subscribe@yahooogroups.com)

- Developed a web page filled with resources including educational information on animal health and grazing management, industry news, classifieds, calendar events, and a business directory. (www.organicmilk.org, www.nodpa.com)
- Administered producer surveys (2001, 2002) providing information on pay price of milk, cost of purchased feeds, pasture use and feed-back on important issues.

We really appreciate the positive feedback we have been receiving from all of you and now we have come upon a time where **we need to turn to you the members to ask for support.**

We consider everyone to be a member of NODPA; our web page is accessible to all, the ODAIRY discussion list is free and our NODPA Representatives are just a phone call away. NODPA has been operating as a result of individual monetary contributions, sponsorships, a generous grant from the John Merck Fund and numerous hours donated by northeast organic dairy producers, OFARM, MOFGA, NOFA-NY, and NOFA-VT.

We have an opportu-

nity to meet a \$30,000 challenge grant this year provided we are able to raise \$20,000 as a match. We have already raised \$4,000 from our members, but need to raise an additional \$16,000 by June 30, 2003 to meet our challenge grant requirement. This money is critical in order for NODPA to continue providing its growing list of services to producers and resource people. Though much of NODPA exists as a result of donated time, a portion of the money raised pays for a part time staff person, the *NODPA News* quarterly

newsletter, web site management, the Annual Field Days event plus operational expenses.

We are inviting you to support this effort by helping us meet the challenge grant require-

ment. Please help us support a strong organic dairy industry by sending us your contribution today.

Donation Challenge: An organic dairy producer, who prefers to remain anonymous, is offering a 'donation challenge'. Every contribution of \$50 or more will be matched by an additional \$10 with a total anonymous donation limit of \$1000. Join us in this fundraising effort and meet this donation challenge!

In order to continue receiving the *NODPA NEWS* newsletter, we will be charging an annual subscription fee of \$20, effective immediately. A complete listing of our 2003 contributing members is included in our colored membership form as part of this mailing.

Unless we receive a minimum contribution of \$20 for the 2003 year, this will be your last newsletter. Again, thanks to all who have already sent their contribution.

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NODPA's 3rd Annual Field Days(Continued from page 1)

etta is a naturopathic veterinarian in Maine, focusing on homeopathy and works with Henry on overall herd health and management.

Jerry Brunetti will follow this session with information pertaining to soil quality. Jerry is managing director of Agri-Dynamics, a 22 year old firm that specializes in the formulation and production of products for farm and livestock as well as pests. He consults on wide-ranging topics and contends that there are curiously similar dynamics at work though nature and across breeds. Jerry works with such materials as seaweeds, herbs, enzymes, probiotics, vitamins, chelated mineral, "rare-earth" minerals and more.

Lunch will be local, organic fare with plenty of time to discuss the morning sessions. This will be an opportunity for farmers to network with farmers from other states and discuss local and regional problems and opportunities. There will also be

a tradeshow with approved products for animal health care, fertilizers, fencing supplies, and other milking and farm equipment products. This midday break will be an opportunity to meet and network with local and non-local producers, learn about resources and resource people in the organic dairy industry, provide feedback on NODPA's direction, and enjoy local, organic food.

The afternoon session will focus on alternative forage systems. Jack Lazor will share his experiences growing barley, oats, alfalfa, and green manure crops. A diverse forage program offers a diverse diet and more variables for nutritional needs and ration balancing. It also offers some insurance during years of specific crop failure. Jack's talk will be followed by a pasture walk. Henry will share his ideas on pasturing, crops, and nutrition. He will show us his sorghum sudan, alfalfa, and corn fields, as well as share what ex-

perience has taught him about growing corn organically.

Brochures for the Field Days event will be sent out in July and will be available on the NODPA web site (www.nodpa.com or www.organicmilk.org). Pre-registration is strongly encouraged. If there are questions or concerns please contact Lisa McCrory @ (802) 728-4416, Henry Perkins @ (207) 437-9279, or Mia Morrison @ (207) 285-7085.

NODPA will hold its annual meeting Friday, August 22nd, the evening preceding the Field Days event. All Northeast organic milk producers are invited and encouraged to attend. By-laws will be approved, nominations made for officers, and other business matters will be discussed. The meeting will be followed by a lobster fest. Pre-registration for the annual meeting is required.

More Organic Milk Sought in Northeast

- **Horizon Organic** is looking for new producer partners in New York and Vermont. Please contact Cindy Masterman at 888-648-8377
- **Organic Valley/CROPP Cooperative** is planning producer expansion in Maine, Vermont, New York and Pennsylvania for 2003 and 2004. Please contact Tim Griffin at 888-444-6455, ext.285. Interested producers are also advised to contact their regional certification agencies and to begin and maintain the 80% whole herd conversion and practice alternative herd health management.
- **Parmalat USA** is looking for organic milk in Lancaster County PA with a pay price of \$21/cwt. Contact Rick Sedotto at 800-631-7739, ext. 1747

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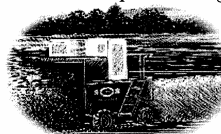
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The Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI)

By Cindy Douglas

The Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization created to benefit the organic community and the general public by providing independent reviews of materials and brand name products intended for use in certified organic production. OMRI conducts research and disseminates

information about materials used in organic production and materials considered for use in organic production. OMRI assists in harmonizing the organic industry by publishing the *OMRI Generic Materials List*—a list of allowed and prohibited materials that all certifiers and their members may refer to. The *OMRI Generic Materials List* is fully compli-

ant with the Organic Federal Rule.

Brand Name Product Evaluation

Rather than having to obtain approvals state-by-state and certifier-by-certifier, OMRI offers manufacturers an independent professional review of their products to assure compliance with the Organic Federal

The OMRI Generic Materials List is a list of allowed and prohibited materials that all certifiers and their members may refer to.

Rule. OMRI publishes products that are allowed for use in organic production in the *OMRI Brand Name Products List*. Over 30 National Organic Program accredited certifi-

ers subscribe to OMRI and thousands of certified operators use OMRI's online version of the *OMRI Brand Name Products List* at www.omri.org. Suppliers with approved products may the "OMRI Listed" seal on their labels and advertisements to help certified

producers identify allowed products.

OMRI's brand name review process is outlined in the *OMRI Operating Manual*. Technical information for each product is received at the OMRI office: OMRI staff ensures that all required information, as outlined in the *OMRI Operating Manual*, is included and then presents the information to the Review

Panel. The Review Panel is made up of organic industry leaders, university professors, laboratory owners, veterinarians, and other agricultural experts. They vote on each product to be included on *OMRI Brand Name Products List* as allowed, regulated, or prohibited, as is appropriate. Product manufacturers must immediately provide OMRI with information regarding any changes in the formulation and/or label. Each manufacturer must renew their listed products and verify that no changes have been made to the product.

The cost for the Review is based on a company's gross sales and the number of ingredients in the product. The fees range from \$400-\$1600. To figure out the cost for your particular product go to OMRI's web site www.omri.org or call OMRI at 541-343-7600.

OMRI offers manufacturers an independent professional review of their products to assure compliance with the Organic Federal Rule.

Other OMRI Projects

OMRI provided Technical Advisory Papers to the USDA's National Organic Program (NOP) on a contract basis. These papers provide information so that new materials may be added or prohibited in organic production. OMRI also participates in SARE grants on the west and northeast coasts. The objective of these projects is to educate extension agents and other agricultural consultants about the federal organic rule. OMRI publishes an organic seed and planting stock list on the web site to help growers source organic seed. OMRI provides technical assistance to subscribing certifiers as well. For example, providing information on international organic standards and all new information from NOP committees and meetings. OMRI provides a quarterly newsletter to all subscribers. For more information go to www.omri.org or contact OMRI at 541-343-7600, PO Box 11558, Eugene, OR 97440.

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2002 NODPA Survey Summary

In October of 2002, NODPA sent a survey to its membership list of people including organic and transitioning dairy producers, agricultural consultants and agency people. From this, a total of 58 producers surveys were returned as well as an additional 75 from livestock producers, supporters and resource/agency people. The survey was designed to guide NODPA as it promotes sustainable farm practices, develops networks, and establishes open dialogue within the organic dairy industry.

Of the 58 producers that responded, 45 were organic dairy producers; 14 from New York, 18 from Pennsylvania, 8 from Vermont and 5 from Maine. The following information is based upon averages in each of these states.

Issues that some producers voiced concerns about were: the organic milk market may not grow fast enough to keep up with supply, oversupply of the market making pay prices for organic milk decrease, too few buyers in the market place, concern about the USDA organic standards and its influence in industrializing organic agriculture, that a few large producers may begin to produce most of the milk and the hopes that the pay price for organic milk will continue to rise with the basic cost of living increases.

Most producers felt that organic grains and forages are not difficult to find. When asked if they felt USDA involvement has improved the certifications process, 60% said no, 14% said yes and 26% were unsure. Those who said no said that there was too much emphasis on record keeping, there are too many gray areas, and that the overall standards were lowered. Those that said yes said that cross-buying (across state bounda-

ries) was easier now, and that hopefully the Federal Organic Rule will create a level playing field and maintain higher standards.

Only 16% of those who responded are currently members of the ODAIRY email discussion group (send an email to Odairy-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to join) and less than 10% of the producers in the survey had visited the NODPA web site www.organicmilk.org or www.nodpa.com). Based upon the recent activities on ODAIRY and on the web page, it looks like there has been a significant increase in the number of producers and industry people over the past 7 months since this survey first went out.

Surveys indicated that farmers would like to see NODPA help set and protect the pay price as well as act as a unifying mechanism among

producers in the Northeast by increasing farmer to farmer communication and disseminating information so that producers are aware of what is happening in other areas. Many also thought it was critical that NODPA continue sending recommendations to the National Organic Program and the National Organic Standards Board and that NODPA improve the awareness of organic agriculture and increase the demand for organic products through consumer education.

It is not too late to be a part of this survey! In order to best represent the voice of the Northeast organic dairy farmer, it is crucial for NODPA to know and hear from you. If you would like to fill out one of the 2002 surveys, please contact Lisa McCrory, 802-728-4416 or email her at lmccrory@together.net.

Averages by State	Maine	New York	Pennsylvania	Vermont
Number of farms responding	5	14	18	8
Number of Milking Cows	66	69	53	40
Pounds of Milk being shipped per year	1,124,000	557,000	726,000	557,000
Rolling Herd Average	14,500	15,000	15,100	14,300
Number of Acres in Organic Production	300	330	133	195
Number of Acres in Pasture	77	105	60	75
Number of Acres in Pasture/hayland	196	174	80	93
Number of Acres in Grains	110 (1 farm)	92 (7 farms)	60 (10 farms)	0
Organic Pay price/hundredweight	\$20.25	\$20.35	\$19.80	\$20.50

Organic Production

Feature Farm

Bull Ridge Farm

Henry Perkins &
Henrietta Beaufait
Albion, Me

History

Bull Ridge Farm has been in the Perkins family since 1928 when Henry's grandfather, Maurice came down from Aroostook County, with 3 sons, 4 daughters, some horses, and 5 Holsteins. His second son, Guy was one of the first artificial breeders in the state, and worked the farm until 1973, when his second son, Henry took over at the age of 21.

Henry watched his father spray their corn fields year after year. When Guy died of cancer in 1978, Henry refused to use sprays and in time, learned to grow quality corn without herbicides. Henry also increased their 65 cow herd to 110. Since that time, Henry has sold his herd 3 times, but always returns to milking.

Henry met Henrietta Beaufait in 1979 when she came to the farm for a veterinary farm visit. She continued practicing conventional veterinary medicine through the first 16 years of their marriage. In 1998, she sold her practice and focused her energies on homeopathy and alternative animal health care. She began her naturopathic practice in 1998 and continues to serve herds throughout the state of Maine. In addition, she is currently working for the Department of Agriculture as a state veterinarian inspecting meat facilities.

When the Organic Cow of Vermont came to Maine in 1996, Henry was interested but decided to wait and watch how the organic market

established itself. After 2 years, Henry signed on with Horizon Organic and began shipping organic milk in August, 1999.

Management System

Henry currently milks 70 Dutch belted, Holstein, and Dutch belted-Holstein crosses in a free stall facility with a swing 6 milk parlor. Dry cows stay in the milking herd through their dry period, with computerized collars regulating grain intake.

Once fresh, cows can visit their calves in the bonding pen, where calves are

kept for the first 2 weeks. It is a limited access system, where cows can reach over the fence to lick their calves but calves are unable to nurse. Calves are fed milk from buckets in groups of 3-5 until approximately 10 weeks of age.

Once weaned, calves are moved to a separate heifer facility. The heifer barn is a 50' x 100' free stall, housing 4 to 5 groups of 12 animals. During the winter, they are fed dry hay and 4# grain per animal per day. In summer months, the heifers are

Nutrition and Farm-wide Practices

Henry believes in keeping systems simple and producing quality milk. He grows 200 acres of top quality forage, including corn, alfalfa, and winter triticale. During the winter, baleage is top dressed with corn silage, haylage from the bunk silo, and grain. In the summer, cows graze 35-40% of their total intake, supplemented by corn silage. Very little to no, low protein grain is fed during the summer months. Feed is supplemented with minerals in the

summer months and kelp is added to mineral supplements in the winter.

Bull Ridge Farm does not use artificial breeding. There is a Dutch belted bull that runs with the 16 month olds in the heifer barn and one that runs with the milking herd in the free stall. Cows are tightly monitored in the parlor to watch for problematic quarters. Henry keeps quality high by keeping out all suspicious quarters and getting machines on within 60 seconds from prep to achieve best milk cooperation (complete milk out due to immediate let down).

Henry has been awarded Horizon's top 10% quality award for both years of its implementation. In 2002, Bull Ridge Farm was recognized as having Horizon's top quality for all its producers nationwide.

Preventative

There are little to no major health issues at Bull Ridge Farm. No vaccinations, Ecoli, or MuSe are used. In addition to his herd's overall vitality, Henry relies upon Henrietta and his daughter, Jacki to maintain good herd health. Jacki is involved in every aspect of farm operations. Not only is she learning how to run a top

notch operation, Jacki is able to learn about naturopathic aspects to veterinary medicine.

Conclusion

Bull Ridge Farm will be the site of NODPA's 3rd annual Field Days this summer. Join us as we check out Henry's diverse forage program, healthy Dutch belted cows, and well designed, efficient heifer facility. Henrietta Beaufait will be sharing her knowledge on effective dry off protocol and dealing with reproductive problems.

Bull Ridge Farm will be the site of NODPA's 3rd Annual Field Days this summer.

In 2002, Bull Ridge Farm was recognized as having Horizon's top quality for all its producers nationwide.

Raising Calves on Nurse Cows

by Nancy Everhart

For the last several years, we have been raising replacement dairy heifers and beef-cross calves on nurse cows, on our small hill farm in Marshfield, Vermont. Our spring-calving, seasonal dairy herd leant itself to this approach, since our calves all came within a six week to two month period. Although raising calves this way entails its own set of challenges, on our farm it has proved to be a successful, low-input way to grow healthy, grass-fed animals, primed to graze from day one.

Over the years, we have experimented with many facets of nurse cow/calf management. We learned from our mistakes, and have arrived

at a loose formula, with the implicit understanding that, as in most aspects of farming, every season is different, and the best plan is to be flexible, and roll with the punches as the season and all its variabilities unfolds. With that said, I'll describe the general process that has worked well on our farm.

Calving on our farm begins in mid-April, and usually ends by late May. Calves are borne out on pasture (unless the weather is horrible in the beginning of the season), and generally suckle their first colostrum directly from their dam, outside. (If we can't tell they've suckled, we give them a bottle of good colostrum as soon as possible.) If the dam is intended to be a nurse cow, the calf and cow are

will accept calves more easily. Sometimes the cows that are the most maternal with their own calves are the most difficult, since they immediately reject "foreign" calves.

We have experimented with different numbers of calves per cow over the years. We started out in the four to five range, but now are planning to just put on three per cow. Last year, of my four nurse

cows, three had three calves each, and the fourth had four calves on her. The calves in the latter group (which were admittedly also the latest born) were noticeably smaller than the others. I have noticed that cows suckling four or more calves (we've tried up to six) get more beat up looking teats, and are generally just more bothered by the constant demands of so many calves. Even if they're producing enough milk to theoretically raise that many calves, it seems to work better with fewer. For that reason, high-producing cows are not good candidates for nurse cows, in my opinion.

Convincing a cow to accept other calves is clearly the most challenging and labor-intensive part of the whole nurse cow approach. Some cows do this fairly easily, but most (in our experience) take a few days at least to allow other calves to suckle them. We have found that confining the group in a small area (I.e. the maternity pen) is essential. We often tie the cow, give her plenty of good feed, put anti-kick bars on if needed, and then work with the calves to get them to suckle. It's easiest to train very young calves who have already suckled. Two week old or older calves who have been raised on a bottle can be amazingly stupid about nursing, although they do eventually get it when they get hungry enough. Another trick

"...the payoff comes when you can gaze at a group of several cows and 15-20 calves, happily grazing and frolicking in a beautiful pasture..."

brought into a maternity pen in the barn, where 2 other calves are added to the group in a day or two. Which cows make good nurse cows? On our farm, we have generally chosen cows that for a variety of reasons may be less desirable to be milked: low production, high somatic cell count, poor udder, etc. It's hard to judge ahead of time which cows



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(Continued on page 8)

Raising Calves on Nurse Cows (Continued from page 7)

that seems to help the cow accept extra calves is to feed them her own milk prior to putting them with her. (We sometimes milk the cow once or twice, and bottle feed the calves we want her to accept.) After 24 hours or so, the extra calves start to smell more like her own, when they've had her milk.

After about a week in the maternity pen, with lots of monitoring and hands-on work to make sure the calves are suckling well, and not getting beat up by the cow (yes, sometimes the cows can be very aggressive), the group is ready for the next stage: a small, flexi-net enclosure outside. We put temporary collars on the calves, attach dog leashes, and take the group out to a prepared paddock that is purposefully fairly small. Making sure the fence is good and hot, we train the calves by pulling

back on the leashes once they nose the fence, so they can't run through it as their instinct tells them to. After fifteen minutes or so, most are fairly well trained. We continue to monitor the nurse cow group very closely, bringing hay to the cow even if the pasture is good, since the area is too small to provide enough feed. If the calves continue to thrive, to seem well-fed and content, and the cow's udder looks good (I.e., not full and hard, because she isn't letting calves

suckle), then we gradually expand the paddock area, and incorporate triple-, and then double- and then single strand polywire. At this point, if all seems well, we also integrate nurse cow groups together, so that by the end of the season we generally have had about 5 cows and 16 to 18 calves in one group.

What happens if it doesn't work? We have certainly had experience with various phases of the above process not working. The transition from maternity pen to outdoor paddock is sometimes difficult. We have had cows that seem to totally accept calves in the barn, but then stop letting them suckle when they get outside. I think keeping the outside area small initially really helps. If necessary, I have sometimes tied a cow to a

tree, fence post or whatever, put a kick bar on again, and made sure the calf got to drink. If calves are not getting enough, they'll let you know. Hungry calves bleat, and their bellies look empty. I also watch the cow's udder. If she generally looked well-nursed in the barn, but starts

getting full and hard outside, then obviously something is wrong. Occasionally we've had to bring the whole group back into the barn to re-train.

While these steps can be laborious and frustrating, the payoff comes when you can gaze at a group of several cows and 15 to 20 calves, happily grazing and frolicking in a beautiful pasture, requiring only 5 to 10 minutes a day of your time (bringing them grain, if you so choose, and rotating pastures). The calves learn to graze well at a very early age, since they have the nurse cows to emulate. If one or two occasionally wanders over or under a fence, they never go far; the last thing they want to do is leave their milk source.

We have weaned calves at various ages, depending on whether we want to bring the cow back into the milking string or not. We generally let the calves nurse for at least three months. Last year, since I was making changes on the farm anyway, and preparing to stop shipping milk, I didn't wean the calves until early November. (This group therefore nursed for about six months.) About six weeks later, I put a group of twenty weaned calves (mixed replacement heifers and beef calves) in my barn with a cow I was still milking, all together in one loose housing area. The calves did not suckle her, and I've seen no evidence of any suckling of the heifers. (I know this

(Continued on page 13)



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Alternative Medicine for Ruminants

Notes from the 2001 ACRES
Conference Presentation with
Paul Detloff, DVM
By Lisa McCrory

Dr. Detloff's mottos:

*"Don't give a cow anything that you
wouldn't eat or drink yourself or in-
ject into your daughters leg"*

*"What happens in the rumen shows
up 6 months later in the hoof"*

Calf Diarrhea and Scours:

Scours colors:

Greenish-greyish = cryptosporidia

Bright yellow = E. coli

Dark, smelly = salmonella

Cryptosporidia may result in bloody
discharge at about 2 weeks of age.

One remedy is *Calf Shield* product
from Crystal Creek which is good for
E. coli, coccidiosis and Salmonella
scours.

Recommendations: when
feeding the calf milk, do not feed on
the floor. It is best to reflect the sce-
nario of a calf drinking from its
mother. Keep the esophagus horizon-
tal; if feeding from a pail, lift it at
least 6 inches.

Calf Pneumonia:

Offer the animal support that
will provide nutritional compounds
that will enhance immune system
response such as aloe juice, whey
products, homeopathy, plus ingredi-
ents necessary in providing relief to
the pulmonary system. Ingredients
included in Crystal Creek's *Respira-
tory Purge*, include Wild Cherry
Bark, Mullein Leaf, Horehound and
Coltsfoot.

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ride cortisol (fight or flight mecha-
nism) so that the immune system
does not get compromised in times
of stress.

—Echinacea – don't use this all the
time, but only at times of need. Dr
Detloff often infuses uterus with
this.

—Idaphos – good for tying up am-
monia and makes an available form
of Nitrogen to use on the field. Ap-
ply in areas where water collects and
ammonia gas is prevalent.

—Tri-Biotic – garlic, eucalyptus and
goldenseal

—Anti-oxidants –The essential oil
tinctures containing Vitamin C that
he uses are Red clover, Rose hips,
Chapparel, and Echinacea.

Retained Placenta:

1) Spend no more than a minute to
remove the placenta from the cow
after calving. If it does not want to
come out then proceed with the fol-
lowing protocol:

2) 2) Infuse the cow with 500cc of
a solution containing 150cc aloe vera
juice, plus 350cc clean water, plus
3cc to 5cc of Uterine Blend. (Uterine
Blend contains garlic, caulophyllum,
golden seal and comfrey.) For se-
vere infections increase Uterine
Blend to 12cc in the solution. For
cows that have twins, infuse with
1000cc of this solution. Infuse once
a day for the first five days postpar-
tum with this volume. After 5 days
reduce the volume of infusion and
consider going to straight aloe vera
juice.

3) When infusing cows that are
more than 5 days postpartum, use
aloe vera juice and Uterine Blend
without water dilution. Infuse with
approx. 140cc once a day.

4) Other option: If Uterine Blend is
not on hand, add 2cc to 5cc of garlic
tincture to the infusion mixture. If
using homeopathy caulophyllum,
administer 10 to 12 pills 2 - 3 inches
into the vulva after infusing with
aloe juice. If using a caulophyllum
tincture, administer vaginally also
after aloe infusion. For those pro-
ducers who like to use a uterine bo-

lus, administer two uterine boluses
into the uterus on day one after calv-
ing and then follow the above proto-
col on top of the capsules. Uterine
boluses are generally used only for
one day.

5) Infuse every day until discharge
looks good. Check discharge on day
21 post calving and if not good, in-
fuse until it improves. You want to
have a nice clear discharge at 21
days. If you are in doubt, infuse the
cow. If after 6 days you have a pud-
dle of dark red blood, that's okay –
that's *Lochia* and a sign that the
uterus is shrinking down.

Udder Edema:

It's okay to premilk the cow. Warm
water and massage will increase the
blood supply to the udder and then a
liniment can be applied. A homeo-
pathic remedy that works for this
kind of swelling is *Apis Mel*. Herbs
that reduce inflammation are Kelp,
cayenne, juniper berries, and parsley.
If there is a lot of udder edema in the
herd, it is important to look at the dry
cow ration and look at potassium.
Look at soil and balance the cations.
It is important to know the Potas-
sium, Magnesium and Calcium lev-
els. A Calcium shortage in the soils
can create the greatest animal health
problems. What you want to find is
a 1:1 Calcium: Potassium ratio in a
dry cow ration.

Nerve Injuries:

50% of the cows suffering from
nerve injuries don't get up. One test
to do with a down cow is to poke the
cow with a pitch fork around the fet-
lock. If the animal flinches, then it is
worth trying to get her up with the
following suggested treatments. A
good pain killer is St John's Wart
and the homeopathic *Apis Mel*. If
the cow does not respond to treat-
ment within 12 hours, or does not
flinch to the pitchfork test, then you
should 'turn her into beef'

(Continued on page 10)

Alternative Medicine For Ruminants, Continued from page 9

Mastitis and High Somatic Cell Count:

Dr Detloff is not interested in the type of bug that is infecting the quarter, he wants to address the immune system which always starts from the soil up. It is important to know your cows and know your genetics; you want to be managing your whole ecosystem (your farm).

-Use IMPRO products that are approved for organic use or use a colostrum whey product. Give 300 cc drench of aloe vera and echinacea for the immune system. You want her to fight the bug herself.

Goldenseal, eucalyptus and garlic tincture – use this *tri-antibiotic*, 3cc in the vulva every 6 hours

-Antioxidant whenever you have massive tissue damage (i.e. – hot udder). Inject Vitamin C or other *antioxidant remedy*

-Put liniment on the udder

-Homeopathic remedy – suggests *Phytolacca* or *Bryonia*

-35% Hydrogen peroxide in the vein sometimes for serious cases. He puts 20-30 cc of H₂O₂ in a bottle of glucose and give as an IV. Dr Detloff has turned around a couple of gangrenous udders with this treatment.

B Vitamins in the tail vein

Vaccinations:

Dr Detloff has backed off on Vaccines. For a healthy, grass based farm, he has resorted to only two vaccines: Lepto-5 and Black leg for youngstock.

Bruise with swelling:

Arnica, Apis mel and liniment are the best treatments for bruises. He showed a slide of a leg injury that got infected. The treatment was to create a poultice using comfrey, valarian root, and munion leaf. Soak this poultice with aloe vera and wrap it. He also followed up with their

product called *Wound Spray* which contains aloe vera, comfrey (which is a knitting herb) and garlic. *Wound Spray* is also good for treating **pink eye**. To treat pink eye, spray in the eye as often as you can. It is also good to feed 20 ounces of aloe pellets to kick in the immune system.

Ketosis:

Ketosis occurs due to a negative energy state. The cow starts to metabolize her body fat and protein and releases ketones. Ketosis results in liver stress and you need to increase the sugar. Treatments that Dr Detloff recommends are:

-IV glucose

-Homeopathic remedy *lycopodium*

-Wellness tonic that contains echinacea, burdock root, and aloe vera

Left Sided Displaced Abomasum:

This is usually secondary to a primary problem. The rumen shrinks as a result of ketosis or a calcium deficiency. For treatment, Dr Detloff will roll the cow over (bringing the abomasum back) and will then give the cow a calcium drench every 12 hours for 3 days. He will also put the

cow on long-stemmed hay

Milk Fever:

There are two kinds of milk fever. If you have an **Alert Downer**, you have a soil problem (cations screwed up). Give the cow one bottle of glucose, 1 bottle of Calcium, and get the cow off cement. Get a 1:1 calcium carbonate mineral and make it available to the cow (and see if she eats it up) then follow up with a calcium pill. A **Metabolic Calcium milk fever** is down, groggy, and is suffering from hypocalcemia. You will get a very fast response with 1-2 bottles of Calcium.

Paul Dettloff has specialized in biological care of livestock since the mid-1990's. He operates Dr Paul's Lab and is co-founder of Crystal Creek, a firm that provides natural veterinary supplies and remedies. 1-888-376-6777



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Choices

By Sonny Golden

When looking at increasing the bottom line of a dairy operation, I find the most important factor is feeding quality forages. This is true with any enterprise, whether organic or conventional. Reducing stress, feeding a well balanced ration, improving herd health, and reducing cull rates and health costs also add to the bottom line.

I include the use of pasture as often as I can when seeking a more profitable operation. Top quality pasture and hay crop forages maximize dry matter intake along with supplying protein, energy, vitamins, minerals, and natural buffers. Therefore, less of the milk check is required to purchase these nutritional needs and is a key to increasing the bottom line. Several cost studies show that high quality hay crop and pasture sources can be produced on each farm at a lower cost per ton of dry matter than other forages.

The following are factors to consider to increase the profitability of a dairy operation.

Quality Forage

Quality forage equals high protein, energy digestibility, and high dry matter intake.

This forage can be legume, grass, mixed mostly grass, mixed legume, small grains, or brown mid-rib sorghum sudan. Each contains minerals, vitamins, and natural buffers.

I find that it is nearly impossible to make forage too good for cows. The better the forage, the better will be the bottom line. You will spend less money on supplements, protein, and grain needed to balance quality for production, breeding, and herd health. This forage can be stored in all types of silos and ag bags or baled

as baleage or dry hay. Too often dairy producers have produced quality forage only to be told that it should not be used because high quality forage often contains high levels of potassium (K) along with high energy and low fiber. An attempt is made by many people to reduce K intake. This advice comes from a group of people not always interested in the producer's bottom line.

Limiting K is extremely critical during the dry and prefresh period but it should not be limited during early lactation. Most people believe there is more calcium than K in milk. However, it is a fact that there is 50% more K than calcium in milk. We err if we try to reduce the K intake to high producing cows. Pasture is an excellent source of K.

Today, not enough small grain forage is used in dairy operations. Rye, wheat, barley, and oats used as pasture, silage, or baleage will produce 18-20% protein when cut in the vegetative stage. This high energy feed is low cost to produce and fits in several harvest windows. Regrowth is possible. Small grains are best used in early spring and late fall for grazing. Being cool season, they will be growing before anything else.

Pastures

Working with dairymen and pasture for over 30 years, I found early that nearly nothing could improve the bottom line, herd health, and reduce stress on dairy cows and farmers more than pasture. I have often referred to pasture as "Doctor Green". Cows love to graze and walk on pasture.

Pasture grasses at 7 to 8 inches high are over 20% protein, high in energy and digestibility. High intakes of quality pasture can lower requirements for grains and eliminate protein supplements. Six pounds of

grain can support 60-72 or more pounds of milk.

Too often I find grass in excess of 12-15 inches. This is not pasture, but rather "standing hay". Results of feeding this mature grass are low production and higher costs.

All pasture should be a mixture of grass and legume. The greater the diversity, the better the pasture. Each grass and legume has an optimum growing condition. Pasture in early to mid spring will not be the same as pasture in mid summer or fall. Experience has taught that we need to supplement summer pasture with more grains, forages, and total mixed rations. I have not found a grass that grows well during the spring, summer, and fall. They each have their peak growing condition and therefore pasture is ever changing.

I feel hay, water, salt, and minerals should be offered while cows are on pasture. Most cows can not stand the heat of summer and with poorer pasture conditions will not show heats. Cows properly fed should show heat 21 days after calving and 21 days later. If breeding is a problem, look at your feeding program.

Remember that the scare of high Milk Urea Nitrogen (MUN), bypass protein, protein solubility, and low fiber of pasture was found to be untrue. This was supposition but found not to be supported by science.

No Corn Silage

Dairy producers for the last 30-40 years have heard many reasons for using corn silage and reducing the use of hay crop forages. Too often, I find corn silage used on a pasture program limits pasture intake, requires more protein supplements, vitamins and minerals and gives poor results. Many dairy pro-

(Continued on page 12)

Choices (Continued from page 11)

ducers are afraid of using an all hay crop or pasture program alone. Instead, corn silage is used but raises feed costs and increases the use of purchased ingredients.

An organic herd should get away from corn silage unless that is the only forage available. Reasons are many:

- Corn silage is 7-12 times more acidic than hay crop stored as haylage. This acidity puts more stress on cows and requires buffers to be fed in total mixed rations (TMRs).
- I see the particle size of corn silage to be too small in 95% of all samples. It is chopped for the good of the silo and not the good of the cow. This puts a cow under a lot of stress and herd health costs increase.
- Corn Silage is a very poor source of important minerals and has little or no vitamin E, which is so important in immune system functioning.
- Using corn silage increases the need for expensive protein supplements and dilutes the benefit of good hay crop forages. If forage quality is very poor (8-10% protein) then corn silage can be of some help. But, the dairy producer needs to address harvesting high quality forage if high profitability is desired.
- Corn silage is a poor source of calcium, potassium, and trace minerals.

Protein and Energy

Most dairy cows are overfed protein and underfed energy! This is the case when cows do not show heat in 21-25 days or are bred at 60-90 days and miss a heat period or two and comes back in heat.

Cows do not reach full dry matter intake for 60-90 days after calving. Feeding protein and overlooking energy will result in more milk but greater breeding problems.

Forage to grain ratio is often mentioned and confusing. Forage quality is the driver for the amount of grain required. First, high quality forage intakes are higher than poor forages. High quality forages require less grain and supplements, often 1 pound of grain to 3 pounds of milk. Poor quality forages require 1 pound of grain to 2.25 pounds of milk.

Excess phosphorus

Nearly 100% of dairy operations are overfeeding phosphorus (P). Overfeeding costs in many ways. High P sources and minerals mixes cost more money, puts cows under a greater stress, reduces feed intake, and reduces milk production. As a matter of fact, over feeding P the first 12 weeks of production can mean 1800 pounds less per lactation. 1800 pounds at \$20 / cwt is \$360 / cow.

Many mineral premixes are overfed for the good of someone else and not the dairyman or cows. Higher P intake is often recommended by feed / mineral salespeople when breeding problems occur. This practice has produced little or no results and I have not found any research to back feeding extra P.

Minerals

Most feed programs overlook the importance of salt, calcium, potassium, zinc, and copper and overload the cow with phosphorus and magnesium. Not feeding salt,

minerals, and buffers free-choice adds to the imbalance. There are many times and reasons why the cows lick at the salt or minerals and when excess intake occurs, we need to look at and adjust the ration or management.

Proper minerals and salt need to be force fed in TMR, etc, but what is wrong with offering them free choice?

Do you ever see a cow eat dirt or clay? Why? People often think it is because of the cow's requirement for P or other minerals when actually it is a need for silicon. No requirement for silicon in dairy cows has ever actually been established. Legumes and corn silage have virtually no silicon, whereas grasses are high in silicon. With high grass intake, cows will eat very little silicon. On a diet high in corn silage and legumes, cows will likely need silicon and will consume bentonite clays which are aluminum silicates. Cows given a choice between grass or legume hay will usually prefer grass hay.

Free choice hay or baleage

While cows are on pasture or fed in the barn, I feel there are several benefits to offering hay or baleage free choice. High use of silages produces more acid conditions and often cows will use hay as a buffer to help balance out the acidity. Particle size is much better with hay or baleage

(Continued on page 13)

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Choices (Continued from page 12)

than with high moisture haylage or silage. When cows are off feed, they will generally consume hay on a free choice basis. Intake of hay will compensate for dry matter variations of rations. Free choice hay is a must in any well balanced feeding program.

Put it all together

- While cows are on pasture or fed in the barn, offer hay or baleage free choice.
- Offer water free choice and clean water tanks and bowls often.
- Supply salt, minerals, and buffers free choice.
- Harvest the best quality forages possible.
- Graze pastures at 6 to 8 inches of height.

Free choice hay, water, TMR, pasture, salt, and some other minerals offered to the dairy herd nearly 24 hours of the day maximizes production and lowers the cost of producing milk. We make the money when we do not fight nature. This is a simple fact often overlooked. Producing quality forage can be a real challenge—but most profitable.

A good feeding program is based on dry matter, water, protein, fat, fibers, base trace minerals and vitamins—and not feeding excess for the benefit of others. The choice is yours!

Sonny Golden has been doing nutritional consulting for 27 years with the main focus on reducing the cost of producing milk and increasing the bottom line. He has long been an advocate of quality pastures and has also been involved with formulating mineral products for farmer's needs since 1971. Sonny lives in Springville, PA and can be reached at 1/888-465-3677.

Raising Calves on Nurse Cows (Continued from page 8)

is a concern of some, but it has not been a problem for us.)

While using nurse cows to raise calves can cause some headaches initially, in the training phase, in the long run it has been a successful way to raise healthy calves on our farm. I know that other farmers are finding different ways to let calves suckle milk directly, whether from their own dams just prior to milking in a tie-stall barn, or by running all the calves with the whole herd. The methods will vary from farm to farm, depending on the many variables of

facilities, set-up, farmer's temperament, etc. Whatever process is used, there's no doubt in my mind that calves get an exceptionally healthy start when they're raised on nurse cows.

Nancy Everhart raised calves and milked cows on her grass-based, certified-organic farm in Marshfield, Vermont for 16 years. She has been working full-time off the farm since the fall of 2001, but continues to keep a small beef herd to maintain her farm's fertility through intensive pasture management.

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Wheat War Weilds Whacky Woes

Farmers across the U.S. are building coalitions to fight the release of Monsanto's new genetically engineered "Round-Up Ready Wheat." A recent story in the Washington Post uncovers a massive new movement of conventional and organic farmers who are working together to pass state legislation that would put a moratorium on Monsanto's mutated wheat.

North Dakota farmers met with Monsanto representatives to express their concerns about the new crop. Steven Pollestad, a conventional farmer, said, "The foreign buyers have flat out said they won't buy it. And I believe they won't." Pollestad called on citizens to take an active part in deciding whether GE-wheat should be released onto the market. "Or we could let Monsanto decide," he said, "and maybe we also could get Enron to run our utilities and Arthur Andersen to keep the books."

Read all about it:

www.organicconsumers.org/ge/wheatpost042203.cfm

Organic Explosion

According to a new report issued by the USDA, "US farmland managed under organic systems expanded rapidly throughout the 1990s and has sustained that momentum". The report says that US farmers and ranchers have added another MILLION ACRES of certified organic cropland and pasture since 1997, bringing the 48-state total to 2.34 million acres in 2001.

Pasture and rangeland more than doubled in the period, the number of certified organic beef cows, milk cows, hogs, sheep, and lambs went up nearly four-fold, and poultry showed even higher rates of growth. The US ranks fourth in

the world for total organic acreage, but is not in the top ten as far as percentage of crop area-the top six are all European countries. The report mentioned that many EU countries-and some US states--subsidize conversion to organic farming for environmental reasons. Perhaps this is a factor in the disparity among states; nine actually lost organic acreage (mostly in the Southeast), while others grew rapidly. Read the full report:

www.organicconsumers.org/ge/usda042903.cfm

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Net Update

New To Our Web Site — The Online Organic Dairy Business Directory

The new Organic Dairy Business Directory located on our web site at: www.nodpa.com or www.organicmilk.org serves a specific niche market: transitioning and organic dairy farmers and agency personnel such as University Extension, Natural Resource Conservation Agents and those working for the State Agriculture Departments.

Our directory provides easy, online, access to Organic Dairy Business products and services. NODPA has developed this online business directory to serve the organic dairying community.

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A Taste of ODAIRY: A Down Cow and What to Do

ODAIRY, the email discussion list created and maintained by one or our NODPA members, has been a great resource for producers and industry people covering topics on animal health & crops, posting calendar events, job listings, and livestock & feed for sale. If you haven't joined this list yet, we encourage you to give it a try. To join or read previous postings, go to:

groups.yahoo.com/group/Odairy

A couple of months ago a farm shared a situation they were having with a down cow and several people wrote with suggestions for treatment. Part of that discussion follows.

*Greetings everyone,
This is one of those circumstances that doesn't make it into the nice glossy magazine articles about organic farming. We have an older Holstein cow down for 6 days now with what I can only assume is post calving paralysis. She calved normally, cleaned quickly, and was up afterwards to lick off the calf and be milked for enough colostrum to feed the calf. The next day, she couldn't get up. Though she didn't have the spacey look of a cow with milk fever, we put 2 bottles of calcium in anyway to give her a bit of strength. We've treated her since then homeopathically with hypericum, alternating 30C and 200C strengths. Our vet is frustrating in times like this. His*

only thought is the "if you weren't organic, you could use dexamethazone". Any suggestions?

We've had similar circumstances and have had very good luck with the following: we give epsom salts to a fresh cow routinely if, when we feel her ears to check for milk fever, she opens her mouth and sticks her tongue out. Sometimes low magnesium symptoms are confused w/milk fever symptoms. If so: drench with Epsom Salts - we use a long-necked pepsi bottle, filled with about 2-3 inches of epsom salts, then filled with warm water. Do this 2-3 times the first day. Then for the paralysis we have used- Arnica, Bellis perennis, Hy-

(Continued on page 17)

A Taste of ODAIRY (Continued from page 16)

pericum and Conium maculatum (30c is fine) every 2-3 hours until you see improvement, then stop. It doesn't really sound like she's paralyzed though, if she calved and cleaned with no trouble.

I think you should have her in a box stall or outside. Footing must be so she feels she will have no problem getting up. Does she have the will to get up? Does she have sensations in her legs and feet. Use a needle lightly to see her reactions. A remedy: Conium maculatum 200c twice daily for one week. If you would let me know what the surroundings are and everything you can tell me about her from pre-calving and on, size of calf, eating habits, etc. Is she fat or skinny? Did she have any problems while dry? Her temp--normal, high or low? Any lung congestion? Have you teased her with her calf? Did you check for ketosis? Everything may help. Sometimes its little things we miss that may trigger larger ones.

[My husband] says that his father, who grew up with the peasant knowledge of northern Germany, used to feed a down cow like yours raw eggs to build up her strength. Organic eggs, probably! He also would sometimes drench them with beer. Though he didn't know about aloe, it probably would be good to counteract stress.

[His] father also used Epsom salts, dissolved in water, for just about anything. Maybe its the magnesium, but sulfur is also essential for proper immune functioning. A little intestinal stimulation might also have helped. He also used a Nux vomica tonic for any cows that were off, especially after a long winter. He regularly offered down cows as much warm water that they wanted to drink.

If the cow was tied in a stallion and couldn't be taken to a safer location, [his] father would stick straw bales in the gutter to keep the cow from rolling into it or lying over the edge or falling and doing further injury. He would also stick straw bales on either side of the cow to support her and prevent rolling. He felt that such cows were in greater danger of hurting themselves more if they tried to get up before they were ready and fell. He also felt that lying on cold concrete was especially stressful for injured cows.

Like the others, I would suspect complications from a mineral point of view. We generally would use magnesium as well if the cow is not up after the first calcium dose. Sometimes the animal may be slightly phosphorous deficient as well. As a preventative or as an additional treatment we may give homeopathic Magnesia phosphorica, Calcarea phosphorica and Kali carbonicum.

I know that some vets trained in acupuncture have been experiencing very good results with nerve damaged cows. My conventional neighbors have had our vet in and the cow got up after acupuncture. If you have a vet nearby who uses acupuncture it might be worth a try. Dr. Hugh Karreman of Penn Dutch Cow Care knows a lot about this. He has a web site:

www.pennndutchcowcare.org

I would be very careful about giving a lot of calcium bottles whether in the vein or sub Q you can cause a heart attack very easily. If you have to give a lot of bottles that means she is living on the calcium you are giving not producing her own. Get oral calcium which is given as a drench. There is a drench gun from Dr. Register in WI. This gun is put between the cheek and teeth so

the liquid will go in the omasum and not in the rumen. Most liquid calcium drenches have Mg, plus Vit B's. Agri-Dynamics has a packet you mix with water. If liquid goes in the rumen it takes a long time to get in the blood stream. By going in the omasum it gets into the blood stream within minutes.

We have a herd of 60 Jersey's and every so often we have exactly what you have. We have found it is often a mineral imbalance and rather than shotgun treat all over the place - take a blood sample and have your lab or vet check her levels. Chances are you will find that her manganese or zinc is out of the balance with the others (looks just like milk fever but Cal / Dextrose doesn't do it) The Manganese / Zinc can be added quite simply from the drug store in a drench 48 hrs and bingo she's up and it won't return. Check your mineral mix also - you may want to increase some trace minerals

As for this particular cow, most folks felt that this is likely a mineral imbalance, specifically a magnesium deficiency. So we have been drenching her for two days with epsom salts, an oral MPK solution, homeopathic dose of mag phos, all mixed together in two beers each time. [This was] mentioned as a time-honored remedy, and we have had good luck with beer for a variety of problems in the past. The bad news is that the cow is still down, but while she eats, there's hope.

Calendar

MAY 31 – JUNE 1

Farm Profits & Sustainability Through Greener Pastures:
Sap Bush Hollow Farm
West Fulton, NY

A two-day practicum on grass-based livestock management and direct marketing. Seminar topics include intensive grazing/pasture management, fencing, water systems, and using animals to condition soils and pasture; market development and direct sales; livestock selection and procurement; diversifying your farm and enterprise; animal nutrition, feed and pasture rotation; livestock management and husbandry; predator control options; observing key environmental indicators; and an intro to holistic decision making.

Contact: Central New York RC&D, 607-334-3231, ext. 4

JUNE 11

Sod Crop Management and Feeding Dairy Cows on Pasture.
Sandy River Farms

Farmington, ME

6-8 pm

Buzzy York and Eric Johnson, call 1-800-287-1426 for information and directions.

JUNE 11

Forage Quality and Nutrient Balance in Pastures

Alvin Stoltzfus Farm
Center County, PA

10 am-3 pm

This special event will feature topics on forage quality and nutrient balance, as well as noxious weeds and stocking on pastures. Free--lunch provided. Contact PASA 814/349-9853, www.pasafarming.org

JUNE 17

Natural and Alternative Dairy Herd Heath Care, Dr. Dan Detloff

Ramada Inn, Ithaca, NY

10 am -3 pm

RSVP to Mary-Howell Martens 315/531-1038

JUNE 25

Monitoring Pastures to Improve Management
Provident Farm

Liberty PA

10 am -3 pm

This event will feature a discussion of important indicators in a pasture-based system, and how to monitor them. Provident Farm has 50-60 mixed breed cows milked in a swing parlor seasonally. The farm is certified organic and all animals are wintered and fed outdoors. Free--lunch provided. More info contact PASA 814/349-9853, www.pasafarming.org

JUNE 26

Annual Grazing, Diversified Animals and Pasture Management
Straw's Farm

Newcastle, ME

1-3 pm

Call 1-800-287-1426 for information and directions.

JULY 10

Buffer Strips, Cattle Crossings and Water Systems
O'Donnell' Farm

Monmouth, ME

1-3 pm

Call 1-800-287-1426 for information and directions.

JULY 18

Soil Builders Workshop:
Butterworks Farm

Westfield, VT

10 am – 2 pm

Sponsored by the Missisquoi River Basin Association, Composting Association of Vermont, and The Highfields Institute. This workshop, field day and farm walk will focus on building soil through organic practices. Jack & Anne Lazor raise a variety of crops including corn, grains, hay and beans on 300 acres in Westfield. They also raise 40 Jersey cows and make yogurt from their milk.

Contact: Brian Jerosse, 802-933-8789, jerosse@together.net

AUGUST 7—10

NOFA 29th Annual Summer Conference: Harvesting The Fruits, Discovering Our Roots

Amherst, MA

Featuring keynote speaker Sally Fallon. More than 150 workshops on organic growing, animal husbandry, herbs and flowers, orchards, homesteading, practical skills, sustainable building, land care, food safety and politics, activism, health and nutrition, and more.

Contact: 978-355-2853,

nofa@nofamass.org,

www.nofamass.org

AUGUST 7

Fairview Farm Pasture Walk
Kirkwood, PA

10 am - 2 pm

View Fairview Farm's paddock design, watering system and overall grass management for successful rotational grazing. Fairview is a cer-

(Continued on page 19)

Calendar (Continued from page 18)

tified organic dairy farm milking about 80 cows with cows freshened both spring and fall. Other highlights of the walk include a milking parlor built by the owner as well as manure composting. More info contact PASA 814/349-9853, www.pasafarming.org

AUGUST 12
Organic Soils and Crops
Field Day

Yates Co., NY
10 am -5 pm, details TBA,
sponsored by NEON, NYCO,
NOFA-NY.
Contact: Maxine Welcome at
607-255-5439 for more information.

AUGUST 22
NODPA Producers
Annual Meeting
Bull Ridge Farm

Albion, Maine
Complete with a lobster dinner. NODPA welcomes all organic and transitioning dairy producers. By-laws will be approved, nominations made for officers, and other business matters will be discussed.
For more information, contact:
Lisa McCrory
(802-728-4416)
Henry Perkins
(207-437-9279)
Mia Morrison
(207-285-7085)

★ **AUGUST, 23**
★ **3rd Annual NODPA Field Days**
★ **Bull Ridge Farm**
★ *Albion, Maine*
★ The day will include educational
★ workshops on animal health, crop-
★ ping and grazing management as
★ well as trade show exhibitors.
★ NODPA encourages all organic and
★ transitioning organic dairy producers
★ *****

to come!
For more information or to receive
our Field Days Brochure
please contact:
Lisa McCrory (802-728-4416)
Mia Morrison (207-285-7085) or
Henry Perkins (207-437-9279)

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1/8 Page Ad or Business Card (3.5" w x 2.25" h) = \$25

Classified Ads: Free to Northeast organic farmers

All others \$5 for the first 30 words; \$.05 per word over 30

Deadline for the next issue is July 15, 2003

Please send your ad and check (made payable to NOFA-VT) to: Lisa McCrory,
NODPA Newsletter, 848 N. Randolph Rd., Randolph, VT 05061 For more
information, call 802-728-4416 or email lmccrory@together.net

• **Note:** Ads requiring typesetting, changes or design work will be charged additional fees, according to the service (minimum charge \$10.00). Please send a check with your ad.

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Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance
(NODPA)
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Richmond, VT 05477

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Richmond, VT

Classified Ads

Resources

ORGANIC PRODUCTS

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ORGANIC LIVESTOCK

Wanted certified organic cows and bred heifers, Vermont, Timothy P Barrows pastureview@gmavt.net 1-802-475-2273

45 organic cows for sale, Fay Benson, Groton, NY, 607/898-4665

Lance Rizzon, has a certified organic farm, in New York and is looking for relatively closeup heifers, e-mail, rizzfarm@aol.com or call (607)583-4430.

OPPORTUNITIES

Missouri 550 acre organic grass-based dairy with on-farm processing is seeking someone or a couple for a long-term partnership. Kerry & Barb Buchmayer, Green Hills Harvest, 14649 Hwy M Purdin, MO 67674, 660-244-5858, ghharvest@juno.com

The Organic Decision: Transitioning to Organic Dairy Production Workbook

Download a free copy as a pdf file: www.organic.cornell.edu. To receive a copy via mail, please call Faye Butts at 607-254-7412 or email fsb1@cornell.edu. \$12 cost to cover printing and postage.

Organic Agriculture at Cornell:

www.organic.cornell.edu

New Farm Online Magazine:

www.newfarm.org

Tails and Tassels Newsletter

Contact Mary-Howell Martens,

315-536-9879 or kandmhfarm@sprintmail.com

Web-Based Map of Local Farms

<http://www.foodroutes.org/index.jsp>

The Milkweed website: www.TheMilkWeed.com.

OFARM's website: www.ofarm.org

NODPA's website www.nodpa.com

Send your ads, articles, announcements, suggestions to:

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