The Calf program is in full swing!

Dave Gietzel, Sheila McGuirk, and Stacy Garves (‘06), met with Tom Earlywine from LAND-O-LAKES, who is donating ALL of our calf milk replacer AND grain for an undefined period of time!

The meeting was to train us on how to use “Cow-match,” a 28% protein milk replacer, because it is extremely important to mix the right amount of replacer (measured in lbs.) with the right amount of water (measures in quarts).

The report since the meeting is that raising young calves is quite similar to raising kids. We currently have “Turner” and “Gina,” who are older calves close to weaning, on the old 21% protein milk replacer and the new more concentrated grain. “Kato,” our newest calf born to “Katrina,” has been on the 28% replacer via bottle since birth, and will begin grain this week. “Lucky” and “Juliette” are on the 28% replacer and new grain, and with the exception of one minor bout of loose manure on “Juliette’s” part, both calves have been healthy as scored by the McGuirk calf health system. “Patricia” (never name a calf after your wife) had a little loose manure at birth, has had to be treated for a trauma induced corneal ulcer, and now is having problems adjusting to the 28% replacer and associated grain. We have had to play with the adjustment of her grain and milk replacer amounts to find a balance that will meet her daily dietary needs. While she has never scored more than a ‘4’ (which on the McGuirk scale is a “watch”), the addition of 3 times daily electrolytes has helped us “control” her loose manure to a degree, for she has managed to gained 3 pounds.

So I’d suggest you stay tuned…there is more to learn from this experience!

In the meantime, it must be said that the Calf Management volunteers: Allison Wistrand, Betsy Welty, Sara Rosek, Abbey Butler, Stacy Garves, & Robin Gryskiewicz have SAVED OUR BUTTS!!

Noteworthy Items

☆ The teaching herd congratulates Travis Kuhlka (Class of 2007) on completing the herd health rotation for the spring semester.
☆ Rebecca Morris (’06) completed another week of the Herd Health rotation during spring break.
☆ Many moo’s to Becky Mentink (’07) for clipping our cows tails so they can go to the county fair this summer.
☆ Joe Herring (’06) deserves an extra round of applause for his extra chore work bedding the dry cows, re-bedding the calf pens, and cleaning out the dry cow feeder.
☆ And for a job that NOBODY wanted to do, but it ended up getting done at an extremely high level—the cleaning, organizing, and removal of some unwanted visitors from the milk house—we need to put our hands together for pre-veterinary student Christy Sibigtroth.

Announcement

Anyone interested in working in the herd this summer should contact Dr. Goodger before April 15th (the slots are filling quickly).
A Very Special Herd Indeed

Tom Bennet pointed out an interesting fact last week about the age of our herd…while most dairy herds have a range of lactations from 1 to 4, our herd lactations range from 1 to 9! This incredible fact is attributable to the collective management and care provided by the herdsman, faculty, and students that work in the herd. Our policy to provide the best management, patient care, and animal welfare is what allows us to maintain such an exceptional group of animals that continue to provide the faculty and herdsman with joy, and a tremendous amount of experience for the students.

So, which of our cows have had greater than 4 lactations? Tootsie, 9; Tina, 8; Morgan, 7; Ace, 6; Blacki, 6; Julie, 6; April, 5; Anna, 5; Scarlet, 5; Amanda, 5; Griffey, 5; Brutus, 5; Jessica, 5; Sandy, 5; Brit, 5; Katrina, 5.

Katrina Calved!

Katrina calved on March 25th! The calving came as a bit of a surprise, considering the fact that we didn’t think she was due for another two weeks! It seems that a clerical error on the Breeding wheel is where we went wrong. Once the error was corrected (we did the math), we realized she calved only one day ahead of her due date (3/26/04).

Luckily, because “Jessica” was so messy and was moved into a tie stall, “Katrina” was in the calving pen when she went into labor.

We will have to watch her ketones as she was not “steamed up” with grain, protein, cottonseed, and AM silage as she should have been; however, it has been noted that a certain herdsman got ‘soft’ and actually fed her those goodies at the 2am grain feedings for most of the time she was back in the barn. Hmmmm….sometimes we just get lucky.

Progress Report

Jessica is continuing to do well; we can actually see her ribs now! But, because she was being a bit messy, and lounging in the sand a little too much, she was moved into a tie stall.

Her milk ketones continue to be normal, except for 1 or 2 movements up to 200 mg, both which were been handled easily with propylene glycol. It seems to be that the key to that treatment is Jessica’s reluctance to have another “BEER” bottle of propylene glycol—she has been overheard telling her body not to go there!
**Daily Events**

**MONDAY**

**AM:**
Herd Health Management (623-675): Crew Chief: 2nd yr (Stacy Garves), 2nd yr (Ann Zielinski), pre-vet soon to be a first year—class 2008 (Allison Wistrand). Calf Health Management: 3rd year, Betsy Welty.

**PM:**
Herd Health Management (623-675): Crew Chief: 2nd yr (Stacy Garves), 2nd yr (Ann Zielinski), pre-vet soon to be a first year—class 2008 (Allison Wistrand). Calf Health Management: 3rd year, Betsy Welty.

**TUESDAY**

**AM:**
4th year Theriogenology rotation (623-699) herd check: Harry Momont/Bill Bosu, 4th yr. students, & pre-vet soon to be a first year (Class of 2008) Kerry Hagen.
➢ Bleeding opportunity to tail bleed cows for Chuck Czupryn's laboratory.

**PM:**

**WEDNESDAY**

**AM:**
LAIM (a.k.a. Laura Lien) will be sending a 4th year student to tail bleed for Chuck Czupryn's laboratory and exam any sick cows.

**PM:**
Herd Health Management (623-675): Crew Chief: 2nd yr (Stacy Garves), 2nd yr (Ann Zielinski). Calf Health Management: Pre-vet soon to be a first year (Class of 2008), Allison Wistrand.

**THURSDAY**

**AM:**
Herd Health Management (623-675): Crew Chief: 2nd yr (Stacy Garves), 2nd yr (Ann Zielinski). Calf Health Management: 2nd yr, Sara Rosek

**PM:**
Herd Health Management (623-675): Crew Chief: 2nd yr (Stacy Garves), 2nd yr (Ann Zielinski). Calf Health Management: 2nd yr, Stacy Garves

**FRIDAY**

**AM:**
7:30am: Management meeting for the teaching herd management team.

**PM:**
Herd Health Management (623-675): Crew Chief: 2nd yr (Stacy Garves), 2nd yr (Ann Zielinski). Calf Health Management: 2nd yr, Stacy Garves

**SATURDAY**

**AM:**
Health Management-623-675 for Crew Chief-2nd year (Stacy Garves), 2nd yr (Ann Zielinski).

**PM:**
Calf Health Management: 2nd yr, Abbey Butler.

**SUNDAY**

**AM:**
Herd Health Management-623-675 for Crew Chief: 2nd Year (Stacy Garves), 2nd yr (Ann Zielinski).

**PM:**
Calf Health Management: Pre-vet soon to be a first year (Class of 2008), Allison Wistrand.

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**Upcoming Events**

**Cows and heifers due in the next month**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cow/Heifer</th>
<th>Due Date / Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tina</td>
<td>2/06 (Heifer - “Turner”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy</td>
<td>2/16 (Heifer - “Lucky”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greta</td>
<td>2/12 (Heifer - “Gina”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane</td>
<td>2/17 (Bull)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violet</td>
<td>2/18 (Bull)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie</td>
<td>2/21 (Heifer - “Jewel”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poppy</td>
<td>2/27 (Heifer - “Patricia”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melody</td>
<td>3/01 (Bull)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>3/01 (Bull)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katrina</td>
<td>3/26 (Heifer - “Kato”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cookie</td>
<td>4/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swash (Swoosh’s daughter)</td>
<td>4/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marie (Morgan’s daughter)</td>
<td>4/29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Since the last Newsletter...

**Katrina calved**

on 3/25/04.

A heifer

**“Kato”**

(Peter Sellers man-servant) was born!
Production and Milk Quality Summary
(updated March 29, 2004)

- The herd continues to milk an average of 92 lbs/cow of Adjusted Corrected Milk (ACM). 
  (ACM is a calculation that standardizes milk to 3.5% fat content, produced by a 3rd lactation cow at 150 DIM.)
- Approximately 48 cows are producing 3969 lbs/day (83 lbs/cow/day). This is approximately 86 lbs per stall—better than our breakeven production level of 68 lbs! (Good job!)
- The herd’s butterfat has averaged 3.46%. The protein has averaged 3.02%.
- Dry Matter intake is at 52 lbs per cow.
- Bulk tank SCC is at 150,000 with a SPC of 1000 for March.

If you need to reach someone at the UW-SVM Teaching Herd Barn,
call (608) 265-3558

Please direct correspondence regarding the Charmany Teaching Herd or the newsletter to:
William J. Goodger, DVM, PhD
Cell: (608) 770-1448
wgoodger@facstaff.wisc.edu

Projects

- See Kerry Hagen for the schedule of cows that need to be vaccinated (J-5 and Scourgard).
- Sara Gilbertson is now doing the body condition scoring and could always use some help.
- Allison Wistrand is taking a 699 directed study on Sick cow physical examinations
- Kerry Hagen is taking a 699 directed study on implementing the OVSYNCH breeding protocol.
- Betsy Welty and Stacy Garves are implementing the calf management system.
- Jodi Woods is editing the newsletter

Employment Opportunities

- If you are interested in gaining experience with dairy cows, we have the opportunity for you. You can join the milking crew at the Charmany Teaching Facility and work the AM or PM milking shifts. Weekday shifts are from 5:00 am to 7:00 am and from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Weekend shifts are from 5:00 am to 12:00 pm and from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Interested students should contact Dr. Bill Goodger at 770-1448.
- Further note on employment is that we can save 50% in student salary expenses (about $20,000 per year) if students apply for work study (about 90% of veterinary students are probably eligible). These added funds would not only allow more students to access to the herd, but would also provide support for clinics, projects, and clinical upgrades to our facility which would enhance the experience for all students. Below is information about work study from the CAMPUS work study office in financial aid.

** The Work-Study Program does not determine where you work. It is up to you to determine where you’d like to work and what type of work you’d be interested in. The Federal Work-Study Program (FWSP) employee’s will be glad to discuss with you what your interests are and what employment options are available to you but you will need to contact the employers directly to inquire about job availabilities.

Having accepted Work-Study will benefit you primarily in two ways: first, since employers only pay .50 cents of every dollar earned by a student, work-study students are highly sought after employees and second, any work-study monies earned are not counted and considered as earned income when you apply for next year’s financial aid. Normally a student’s earnings are considered as earned income and your next year’s financial aid award is reduced by that amount.

If you decide to work On-Campus, ANY job at the UW automatically qualifies as a work-study position. You should always let a UW-employer know that you have accepted a work-study award, because again, it makes you an even more desirable hire to them. Having said this, some UW employers require that you have work-study. These listing can be found under the “UWWR” section.