

UMN Extension 2017 Summer Dairy Field Days

June 30, 10:30am-1:00pm Green Waves Farm - Wright Co.

The Berning Family: Paul & Stacy, Mark & Julie, David & Sara
7776 County Road 37 NE, St. Michael, MN 55376

Green Waves Farm is a 4th generation family farm. They recently brought in David and Sara and are expanding the dairy. Come learn how they minimize labor and achieve high production with their highly automated system including milking with 8 Lely A4 robots with post-milking sort gates and pre-training heifers for the robot. Cows are housed in 6-row cross-ventilated freestall barns with waterbeds. In 2010, they built a calf barn with an automated calf feeder. They also have a manure liquid-solids separator.

Lunch will be provided. Sponsored by AgStar, Federated Coop, Leedstone, and Munson Lakes Nutrition.

July 6, 10:30am-2:00pm Farmer to Farmer Tour - Carver Co.

Mike & Donna Tellers
8865 Tellers Road, Chaska, MN 55318

Learn how the Tellers have achieved a rolling herd average of over 28,000 lb of milk and 1,000 lb of fat without the use of rBST and milking 2X in their 50-cow tiestall housed herd. Some keys to their success have been their excellent transition program, less than 100,000 SCC, and high pregnancy rate. There will be discussions on how they have managed for high production, the use of long day lighting, and tunnel ventilation. After lunch there will be a presentation on how consumer-driven preferences are influencing farming practices.

Lunch will be provided. Lunch and afternoon session to be held at Augusta Ball Field, 5950 Hampshire Road, Chaska, MN. Sponsored by Carver County Dairy Core Team, Minnesota Dairy Initiatives-SouthCentral Region, and UMN Extension.

July 19, 10:30am-12:30pm HCL Farms, LLC - Morrison Co.

The Holtz Family: John, Greg & Bennie
10232 195th Street, Little Falls, MN 56345

The dairy milks 220 Holstein cows 3X/day with an average of 90 lb of milk/cow/day. The Holtz brothers also own HB Farms, LLC, a 270-head cow/calf and feedlot beef operation. The day-to-day dairy farm operations are run by Bennie and his wife, Brittany. They also employ 4-5 part-time employees (all high school students). The dairy LLC was founded 12 years ago and the Holtz family rents the farm facility with hopes to one day

purchase it. Improvements to the facility in the last 5 years include a new manure pit, lengthening the freestalls, installing new foam mattresses in the freestall barn, and installing a water treatment system. They believe the water treatment system (treating for high iron) has helped increase milk production by over 10 lb. Switching to 3X milking also led to large production increase. Fresh cows are milked 4X; a low production group is milked 2X. Low production cows are housed on a bedded pack outside. Between the 2 housing systems, the cows average 150,000 SCC.

Lunch will be provided. Sponsored by Central Minnesota Dairy Initiative and Morrison DHIA.

August 1, 10:30am-12:30pm Meyer Dairy, LLC - Stearns Co.

Nick, Tara, Tyler & Maddie Meyer
39957 360th Street, Sauk Centre, MN 56378

The Meyers milk 240 cows 3X/day in a double-8 parlor. All their calves and heifers are raised on-site. In 2003, Nick took over the farm from his parents and expanded from the original tiestall barn to a 150-cow freestall and parlor setup. In 2012, the Meyers built a transition cow barn and added an additional 80 milking cows. They have a Doda manure solids separator and bed with deep-bedded solids in their pregnant cow milking pen and the far off dry cow pen. Chopped straw bedding is spread on mattresses in the 2 high cow pens. They converted the old tiestall barn into a calf barn with individual stalls, feeding whole pasteurized milk to calves. A year ago, they installed automatic alley scrapers. Come and learn how they maintain a 30,000 lb herd average and greater than 30% pregnancy rate.

Lunch will be provided. Sponsored by Central Minnesota Dairy Initiative and VitaPlus.

August 2, 10:30am-12:30pm Du-Ayr Dairy - Rice Co.

Paul & Audrey Duban; sons Scott & Chad; daughter Clarissa & fiancé Shawn Suess
13417 Bagley Avenue, Faribault, MN 55021

The Dubans moved in August 2016 from a 37-cow tiestall barn into their new 3-row sand bedded barn housing two Lely A4 robots. They use automatic alley scrapers to scrape the manure to a pit in the barn, then manure is piston pumped to an older existing pit. The robots are placed at a 45° angle to the barn which also features JanAire curtains. They also have a Juno feed pusher. Dubans had a nice increase in production after moving to the new system. They milk Holstein, Ayrshire and Jersey.

Lunch will be provided. RSVP is requested by July 26 (call 507-332-6165). Sponsored by Big Gain Inc., Community Resource Bank, The Dairy Farmers of Rice County DHIA, Dairyland Equipment Services, Inc., Hastings Co-op Creamery, KBS Construction, and Northland Farm Systems.

August 3, 10:00am-12:00pm Olson's Dairy Goat Farm - Todd Co.

Marty & Heather Olson
15814 County 50, Long Prairie, MN 56347

The Olsons milk 80 registered Alpine and Saanen dairy goats in a double 8 parallel parlor. They started in the dairy industry in the spring of 2016 with just two milking does and have a goal to expand to 150 within the next few years. Milk is picked up 2X/week and sold to Mont Chevre in Wisconsin. Currently all female kids are kept as replacements and fed heat treated colostrum, then milk replacer. Heather is also the owner/operator of Riverside Goat Soap where she makes soap, lotion, and other items from the goat milk.

Snacks will be provided. Please RSVP by August 1st to Brenda Miller at 320-732-4435 or nels4220@umn.edu. Sponsored by UMN Extension.

August 4, 10:00am-2:30pm SE MN Organic Dairy Day - Winona Co

Laverne & Arlene Nelson, Ross & Tiffany Nelson
19675 County Road 33, Altura, MN 55910

The day will start with milk and cookies along with registration at the Utica School House, 200 S. Center Street (Hwy 33), Utica, MN, followed by a U of M organic research update, fly control on organic dairies, then lunch. Meet at the Nelson's organic dairy south of Altura for the afternoon tour, pasture walk and discussion on measuring pasture forage production with measuring sticks and an electronic rising plate meter. The Nelsons have transitioned to the next generation with son and daughter-in-law now part of the operation. The Nelsons milk in a step-up parlor and use supplemental feeding with their grazing operation. The Nelsons milk 90-100 cows of mixed breeds with an emphasis on choosing A2A2 genetics, and they graze about 125 acres.

Refreshments and lunch will be provided. Sponsored by Southeast Minnesota Dairy Initiatives.

August 8, 10:30am-12:30pm Middendorf Farm - Todd Co.

Donnie & Carolyn Middendorf
20102 County 36, Long Prairie, MN 56347

The Middendorfs currently milk 100 cows in a double 8 swing parlor which is retrofitted into what used to be a tiestall barn. They installed the parlor almost 5 years ago. The cows are housed in a 3-row, sand bedded freestall barn. The manure handling system includes a manure pit and filter strip. The Middendorfs have been dairy farming since 1995 and are currently in the process of transitioning to organic.

Refreshments/snacks will be provided. Sponsored by Central Minnesota Dairy Initiative.

August 9, 12:30pm on-site start time Good-Vue Ayr Farms - Pennington Co.

Mike & Linda Hanson; sons Matthew & Steven
35400 State Hwy 1 NE, Goodridge, MN 56725

Come and see this high tech farm featuring 2 Lely A4 milking robots and a Lely Vector automated feeding system. The feeding system features a crane and feed grabber system that systematically selects and weighs each feed type for both milking cow and dry cow rations in the barn. In addition, it features a self-propelled mixer that delivers fresh feed to cows multiple times throughout the day and night. In 2016, the Hansons moved into their new 5-row cross-ventilated barn, equipped with waterbeds, that houses milking and dry cows.

Optional bus service (\$20/person) from American Legion parking lot, 265 County Road 173 SE, Melrose. Space is limited!

Pre-registration required to ride bus. Register for bus online at <https://www.regonline.com/dairyextensionfieldday> or call Shari (320-203-6054). Snacks and evening meal provided to bus riders (lunch provided to all attendees). Bus departs promptly at 8:00am; returns at approx. 9:00pm. Sponsored by Leedstone, Lely, and Northwest Minnesota Dairy Initiatives.

August 10, 12:30-3:00pm Trailside Holsteins - Fillmore Co.

Jon, Michael & Margret Johnson
24962 Jade Road, Fountain, MN 55935

The Johnsons have achieved well over a 30,000 lb rolling herd average on their 550 cows housed in sand bedded freestalls. Their philosophy is to work hard every day to give their cows what they need in order to achieve their genetic potential. Recently they installed the CowManager system to monitor activity and rumination. They believe the rumination sensor has been very beneficial in herd management. The operation has a 2-stage manure system. The Johnsons are working on a plan to transition the business from Jon to Michael and Margret.

Refreshments/snacks will be provided. Sponsored by Southeast Minnesota Dairy Initiatives.

August 15, 10:00am-2:00pm WCROC Organic Dairy Day - Stevens Co.

West Central Research & Outreach Center (WCROC)
46352 State Hwy 329, Morris, MN 56267

The WCROC will showcase the latest advancements in organic dairy research including grazing kernza, an automated calf feeder, and pasture walk, along with speaker Larry Tranel from Iowa State University. For more information, contact Brad Heins at 320-589-1711 or hein0106@umn.edu.

Lunch will be provided.

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OBJECTIVES:

- Visit operations that have been successful.
- Learn about each dairy operation's features.
- Ask questions and learn from one another.

AGENDA:

- Description of farm operation by host farm family.
- Short discussion on topics related to each dairy.
- Question/Answer session.

PRESENTERS:

- Host Farm Family Members.
- University of Minnesota Extension Faculty.

REGISTRATION:

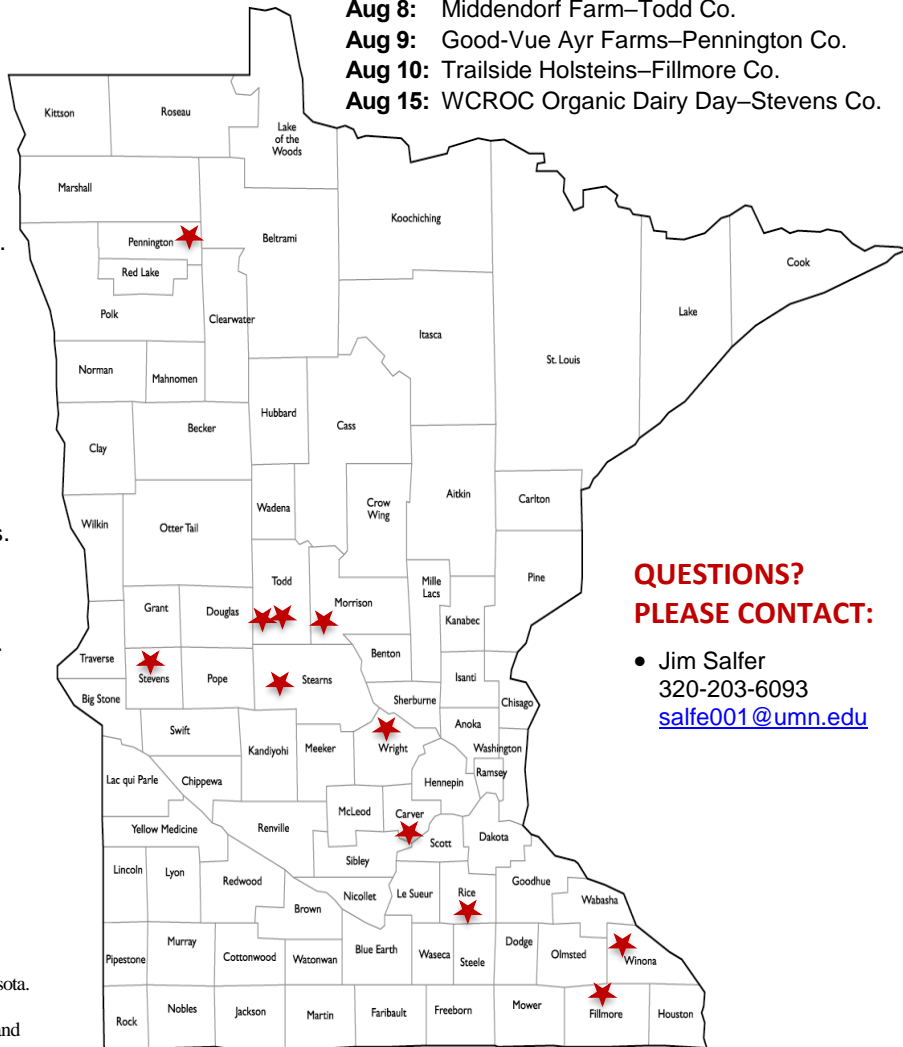
- Registration starts 15 to 30 minutes before program.
- Pre-registration may be requested at some locations.

COST:

- Small fee at some locations.
- Lunch is included at some locations.

DATES/LOCATIONS:

- Jun 30:** Green Wave Farm–Wright Co.
Jul 6: Farmer to Farmer Tour–Carver Co.
Jul 19: HCL Farms, LLC–Morrison Co.
Aug 1: Meyer Dairy, LLC–Stearns Co.
Aug 2: Du-Ayr Dairy–Rice Co.
Aug 3: Olson's Dairy Goat Farm–Todd Co.
Aug 4: SE MN Organic Dairy Day–Winona Co.
Aug 8: Middendorf Farm–Todd Co.
Aug 9: Good-Vue Ayr Farms–Pennington Co.
Aug 10: Trailside Holsteins–Fillmore Co.
Aug 15: WCROC Organic Dairy Day–Stevens Co.



QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:

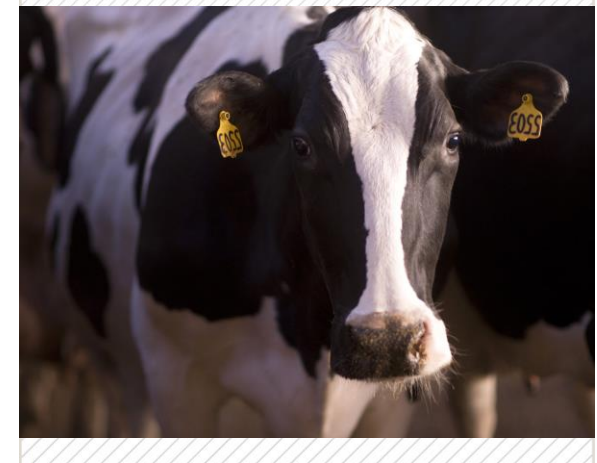
- Jim Salfer
320-203-6093
salfe001@umn.edu

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | EXTENSION

Department of Animal Science
1364 Eckles Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108

UMN Extension 2017 Summer Dairy Field Days

11 Locations Across Minnesota



*Presented by University of Minnesota
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