THURSDAY, MARCH 14 – 10 AM
STATE BANK OF NEW PRAGUE
1101 1ST STREET SE
NEW PRAGUE, MN 56071

Forages & Feed Costs: Your Whole Farm Plan
Jim Paulson will discuss forage quality and different forage strategies to reduce feed costs. This session also looks at your forage plan, value of nutrients grown on your farm and the profitability of the whole farm system.

Tips to Turbo-Charging Rumen Fiber Digestion
Noah Litherland will address understanding how feeding and management practices impact forage digestibility. Learn how you can increase fiber digestibility through selection of dietary ingredients and feed additives, TMR mixing, cow time budgets and altering feed intake.

Replacement Cost Strategy to Maximize Profit
Jim Salfer will discuss the cost of herd turnover. This session will look at the economic reality of replacement costs and the methods used to reduce replacement costs. He will also look at some of the newer technologies such as gender selected semen and genomics and how the use of these may affect replacement costs and herd profitability.

This brochure can be viewed online at: http://z.umn.edu/dairy2013

To pre-register for the March 14 session please contact:
Diane DeWitte
Blue Earth & LeSueur Counties
stouf002@umn.edu
507-357-8230

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 – 10 AM
HOLIDAY INN HOTEL & SUITES
2365 43RD STREET NW
OWATONNA, MN 55060

Using Herd Records to Benchmark Herd SCC
Looking to lower or maintain your herd’s somatic cell count? Jeff Reneau will help you understand SCC dynamics and help direct your attention to where trouble is coming from—fresh cow infections, new infections in your lactating herd or chronic cows.

Milk Quality: Why Consistency Matters and How am I Doing?
Learn why consistency matters and how you’re doing to help your herd produce a quality product. Dr. Reneau will walk you through how to answer these questions in your barn. Feel free to bring your last 20 bulk tank SCC results from your milk plant and DHIA Herd Summary to make the session more interactive.

Achieving Better Dairy Cattle Immune Function Through Nutrition
Noah Litherland will help you discover strategies to boost immune function through diet and management and to identify and remove immune function suppressors on the dairy farm.

To pre-register for the March 21 session please contact:
Mike Donnelly
Rice & Steele Counties
donne009@umn.edu
507-444-7691

THURSDAY, MARCH 28 – 10 AM
RANCHERO SUPPER CLUB
4452 40TH STREET W
WEBSTER, MN 55088

Automatic Milking Systems
Jim Salfer will discuss automatic milking systems (robotic milkers). The basis of the presentation will be data from surveys conducted in 2011 and 2012 on 50 farms across Minnesota and Wisconsin. Come and learn if robotic milking is a good fit for you dairy and management style.

Strategies to Grow Bigger, Faster, and Stronger Nursery Calves
Noah Litherland will discuss how you can implement feeding and management strategies to combat environmental and pathogen stressors to grow bigger calves with faster rumen development and stronger immune function.

How to Get Away From the Farm – At Least Once in A While
Chuck Schwartau will focus on standard operating procedures (SOP’s). Chuck will go through development of SOP’s, show examples and point out how a good set of SOP’s can provide greater flexibility on the farm for shifting employees and providing opportunities for owners/managers to have more time flexibility as well.

To pre-register for the March 28 session please contact:
Laura Kieser
Carver & Scott Counties
torb0022@umn.edu
952-492-5410 – press 0 for support staff
ABOUT THIS PROGRAM

The Quad County Dairy Series is a collaborative effort of University of Minnesota Extension educators in LeSueur, Rice, Scott, and Steele Counties. Your local agriculture Extension Educators include:

- Diane DeWitte - LeSueur and Blue Earth Counties - stouf002@umn.edu
- Mike Donnelly - Rice & Steele Counties - donne009@umn.edu
- Laura Kieser - Carver & Scott Counties - torb0022@umn.edu

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PROGRAM COST

There is a small fee of $10 per person per location for this program to help cover program costs including speakers, food and room charges.

We would like to thank the following sponsors for helping to keep the cost low for our program participants, while still offering a high quality program and meal: Bremer Bank, Dairy Profitability Enhancement Program, Scott-LeSueur County American Dairy Association and Steele County American Dairy Association.

ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

Dr. Noah Litherland is a Dairy State Specialist & Research Faculty who works from the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota. Noah’s interest areas include dairy cattle nutrition, dry period nutrition, lipid metabolism, dairy calf health and growth, use of by-products in ruminant diets, and regulation of feed intake.

Jim Paulson is a Regional Extension Dairy Educator who works out of the Willmar Extension Regional Center. Jim has expertise in dairy nutrition, forage production, grazing, and organic production.

Dr. Jeff Reneau is a Dairy State Specialist & Research Faculty who works from the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota. Jeff focuses his teaching efforts in the areas of dairy management and milk quality.

Jim Salfer is a Regional Extension Dairy Educator who works out of the St. Cloud Extension Regional Center. Jim focuses is work in the areas of dairy nutrition and management.

Chuck Schwartau is a Regional Extension Dairy Educator who works out of the Rochester Extension Regional Center. Chuck has expertise in the areas of total systems management, agricultural labor, and dairy risk management.