

University of
Minnesota Extension
Dairy Team

Presents

Successful Dairy Systems
Field Days



Summer, 2008

8 locations across Minnesota

No pre-registration required

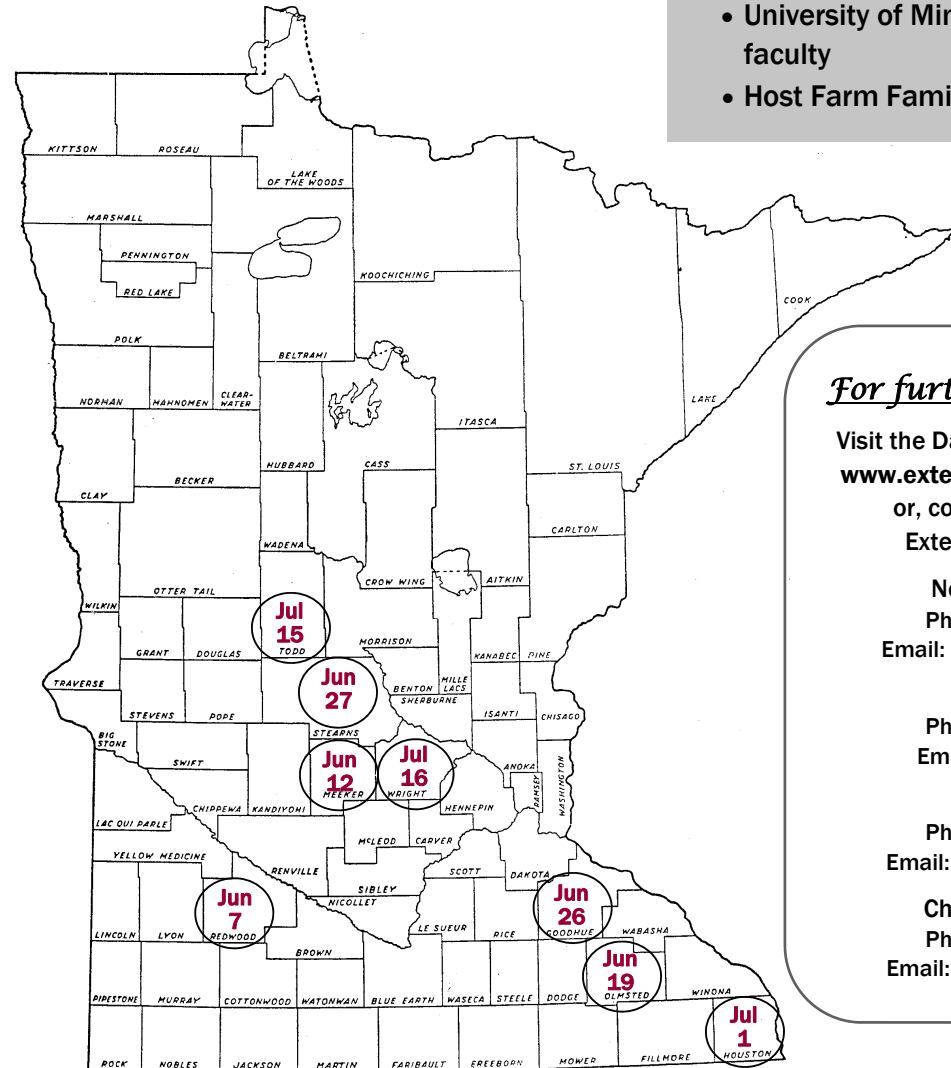


Objectives of the Successful Dairy Systems Field Days:

- To visit successful dairy operations and hear about the host family's decision making process and changes made to assure their future in dairying.
- To learn about the dairy operation's features.
- To ask questions and learn from one another.

Presenters at Successful Dairy Systems Field Days:

- University of Minnesota Extension faculty
- Host Farm Family members



For further information:

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Dairy Extension

Educating the dairy industry on today's and tomorrow's dairy technologies.



July

July 1, 7:30-9:30 pm

DeSu Holsteins Heifer Facilities, Dean & Sue Meyer family (Houston Co)

- Directions: From Spring Grove, go 3.5 mi west on MN Hwy 44 to Co Rd 8, go south for approx 1.5 mi, west on gravel road for 0.25 mi to driveway. From Mabel, go 3.5 mi east on MN Hwy 44 to Co Rd 8, go south for approx 1.5 mi, west on gravel road for 0.25 mi to driveway.
- Features: Four 250-head freestall dairy heifer replacement barns constructed last fall, featuring drive-by feeding and sand bedding. The 1200-cow dairy herd has a 30,600 RHA. They are housed on a separate farm and will not be part of this program. This field day will be held in cooperation with the Houston Co. Dairy Roundtable.

July 15, 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Hans Kroll Farm, 24451 265th Ave, Long Prairie (Todd Co)

- Directions: From Long Prairie, east on State Hwy 27 to 265th Ave (first gravel road about 1.5 mi out of Long Prairie), north on 265th, the Kroll Farm is the first farm on the left side of the road.
- Features: A recently constructed double six, swing parabone parlor. An efficient, nice, clean parlor built with a minimum investment. Rotational grazing summer animal housing. Hoop barn bedding pack for winter housing. The next family generation is transitioning into the operation.

July 16, 10:30 am-Noon

Harlan & Jenny Poppler, 5956 Gowan Ave SW, Waverly (Wright Co)

- Directions: From Howard Lake, go east on US Hwy 12 for 3 mi to Gowan Ave SW, go north on Gowan, go under rail-road trestle and across intersection to first place on right.
- Features: 200 cows housed in a mattress freestall barn. Double 8 parlor in the old tiestall barn. Current herd average is over 34,000 lb on 3X day milking. All feed including high moisture corn is stored in bags. One group TMR for lactating cows and one dry cow group. New calf barn and dry cow heifer barn built within last 3 years.



All Sites

Registration:

- Starts 30 minutes before program
- No pre-registration required

Cost:

- \$5.00 per person per location unless otherwise stated (includes handout materials and refreshments)
- Pay at the site

Agenda at each site:

- Description of farm operation by host farm family
- Discussion on topics related to features of that farm
- Tour of dairy facility
- Question and answer session

Successful Dairy Systems Field Days is sponsored by:

- Minnesota Dairy Initiatives
- University of Minnesota Extension

June

June 7, 10:30 am-Noon (OPEN HOUSE—NO CHARGE)

Goblirsch Dairy LLC, Bernard & Mary Clare, with sons Nels & Matt, 21287 Garden Ave, Wabasso (Redwood Co)

- Directions: From Wabasso, go approx 4 mi west on MN Hwy 68, south on Co Rd 7/Grand View Ave, continue on Co Rd 7 approx 3.5 mi (Co Rd 7 will go 1 mi south, 1 mi west and 1.5 mi south).
- Features: 256-stall slatted floor freestall barn. Cows are milked with 4 robotic milkers. They have milked with robots since spring of 2006.

June 12, 10:00 am-Noon (NO CHARGE)

Dan Fitterer, 61998 190th St, Litchfield (Meeker Co)

- Directions: From Litchfield, go approx 7.5 mi south on MN Hwy 22, west on 190th St for 0.75 mi.
- Features: Remodeled pole shed into a compost barn. 60 cows are milked in a double 6 parabone parlor installed in the old tiestall barn. Cows have access to pasture in summer. Learn how to manage a dairy business in an environmentally sensitive area. This field day will be held in conjunction with KLF D Radio Station 'Day on the Farm'.

June 19, 10:00 am-Noon

Robert & Jeannette Sheehan, 4428 Co Rd 16 SE, Rochester (Olmstead Co)

- Directions: From the town of Marion, just south of the I-90/US Hwy 52 intersection, go approx 3.25 mi west on Co Rd 16. From Stewartville, go 4 mi east on MN Hwy 30, north on Co Rd 1 for 5 mi, east onto Co Rd 16 for 1.25 mi (road is adjacent to I-90), farm is on right. From intersection of US Hwy 52 and Co Rd 1, go 4 mi south on Co Rd 1 to Co Rd 16 (intersection is just south of I-90 overpass), east onto Co Rd 16 for 1.25 mi to farm.
- Features: A curtain-sided, clear-post framed ag building was built in 2007 for replacement heifer calves up to 4 months of age. A shed constructed in 1991 containing 6 bays is used for 4-10 month old heifers in transition. Participants will also have the opportunity to travel a short distance to another dairy farm in the Sheehan family to see an older tiestall barn remodeled into a facility for calves from birth to 2 months of age.

June 26, 10:00 am-Noon

Shamrock Farms, Dave & Steve O'Reilly families, 33656 Co 6 Blvd, Goodhue (Goodhue Co)

- Directions: From Goodhue, go 1 mi west from Hwy 58 on Co Rd 9 to Co Rd 6, then north 4.25 mi to Shamrock Farms.
- Features: Currently milking about 350 cows in an organic production system that includes a modern milking parlor, freestalls for winter housing and summer grazing. A new manure system was added in 2007. Youngstock start in group-sized Porta-Huts, then go to pasture. Shamrock Farms was originally established in Goodhue in 1894. They have been operating as an organic farm since 1973 and marketing their dairy through organic channels since 1994.

June 27, 10:00 am-3:30 pm (NO CHARGE)

Jerry & Linda Jennissen (Stearns Co). **NOTE:** Participants will meet at Padua Pub, 33945 Co Rd 18, Sauk Centre. Please do not go directly to farm; buses will be running between Pub and Farm periodically between 10:00 am and 1:30 pm.

- Directions to Padua Pub: From Sauk Centre, go 8.5 mi south on US Hwy 71, 5 mi west on Co Rd 22.
- Features: 130-cow freestall barn with flat barn parlor. Recently converted from sand bedding with weekly manure hauling to a digester system using recycled manure solids for bedding.

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