

Dairy producers earn top production honors

NorthStar Cooperative DHI Services has named award winners for the 2009 testing year. Awards are given by geographic area (Wisconsin and Michigan/Indiana/Ohio) and are based on a herd's annual rolling herd average, as completed with NorthStar Cooperative's DHI Services.

Michigan and Indiana winners

Alan Miller and **Kevin Hurd** of Perrinton, Michigan earned the award for High Dollar Value Holstein Herd Average. The 50-cow Red and White Holstein herd won the award with a rolling herd average of 35,227 pounds of milk, 1,169 pounds of fat, 1,082 pounds of protein and a dollar value of \$4,291.

The High Dollar Value Protein Breed Herd award was once again earned by **Nor-Bert Farms** of Bremen, Indiana. Nor-Bert's herd of 26 Brown Swiss cows earned the award with 27,809 pounds of milk, 1,455 pounds of fat, 934 pounds of protein and a \$4,276 dollar value.

The award for the Lowest Somatic Cell Count Herd Average was earned

by **Doug Westendorp** of Nashville, Michigan. The 92-cow Holstein herd earned this award with a SCC average of 58,000, while producing a rolling herd average of 29,195 pounds of milk, 976 pounds of fat, 829 pounds of protein with a dollar value of \$3,404.

A 7H1965 WINEgars Kittitas Chairman daughter owned by **Gordon Dick** of McBain, Michigan earned the Highest Lifetime Cow for Milk Production award. In ten lactations, cow #126 has produced 365,325 pounds of milk.

Wisconsin winners

Rosey-Lane Holsteins, LLC of Watertown earned the High Dollar Value Holstein Herd award. The 839-cow herd recorded a rolling herd average of 31,278 pounds of milk, 1,233 pounds of fat, 974 pounds of protein with a dollar value of \$4,098.

The High Dollar Value Protein Breed Herd award was earned by **Ron and Nicolle Wussow** of Cecil. Wussow's herd

of 73 Jersey cows earned the award with a rolling herd average of 21,847 pounds of milk, 1,096 pounds of fat, 742 pounds of protein, and a \$3,317 dollar value.

Doug Redetzke of Stratford received the award for Lowest Somatic Cell Count Herd Average. The Redetzke herd of 32 cows earned the award with a SCC of 51,000, while maintain a rolling herd average of 23,725 pounds of milk, 902 pounds of fat, 707 pounds of protein and a \$2,989 dollar value.

A 7H2236 Emprise Bell ELTON daughter owned by **United Pride Dairy, LLC** of Phillips earned the High Lifetime Cow for Milk Production award. In nine lactations, cow #277 has produced 396,474 pounds of milk.

More information about year-end production results are featured in the 2009 NorthStar Cooperative DHI Services Annual Performance Summary. Ask your area DHI technician for your copy of this report. ★

Looks can be deceiving Mycotoxins – the invisible poison

Feed does not have to be moldy to contain dangerous levels of mycotoxins. This fall the Midwest experienced cold, wet weather conditions which delayed harvest; creating the perfect environment for Fusarium (vomitoxin (DON), T-2, zearalenone) molds and mycotoxins to grow.

What can you do?

- Test your feed for mycotoxin levels, not mold levels.
- Watch for symptoms of mycotoxicosis
- Use a mycotoxin control program

Ideal features of a mycotoxin control program

	Sticky Clay	L-Form Sugars	Bacteria
Ability to bind a wide range of mycotoxins	N	N	Y
Low effective inclusion rate in feed	N	Y	Y
Rapid and uniform dispersion in feed during mixing	Y	Y	Y
Heat stability during pelleting, extrusion and storage	Y	N	N
Low affinity for vitamins, minerals or other nutrients	N	Y	Y
Broad-range toxin control	N	N	Y



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