

HEIFER NOTES

Growing Our Future™



DCHA
DAIRY CALF & HEIFER ASSOCIATION



Supplementing waste milk: A look at the benefits

Research continues to show that if a dairy farm is going to feed waste milk to calves, there are significant benefits in pasteurizing that waste milk.

Although keep in mind, maintaining a pasteurizer, monitoring temperatures, keeping it clean and sanitized, as well as refrigerating waste milk before and after pasteurizing are key to successfully utilizing a pasteurizer to earn these benefits.

Another factor to feeding pasteurized waste milk is balancing the nutrition of the waste milk. Due to the inconsistent nature of the waste milk, solids, fat and protein content for waste milk vary significantly. A study by Land O'Lakes Animal Milk Products evaluating waste milk on 252 farms showed that solids varied from 9 percent to 18 percent. Protein varied from 2.2 percent up to 5.0 percent and fat ran from 1.8 percent up to 9.5 percent. For comparisons sake saleable milk is typically 12.5 percent solids, 3.0 percent protein and 3.6 percent fat and colostrum is 24 percent solids, 14 percent protein and 6.7 percent fat. Due to the variability of its nature, it's recommended

when feeding pasteurized waste milk to balance the nutritional content to ensure the calves receive optimal nutrition.

Supplementing waste milk is a practice that Sawtooth Cattle Company in Wendell, Idaho, implemented several years ago. Manager and DCHA member, Brandon Andersen, says that the calves on their operation thrive under this feeding program. Sawtooth Cattle Company raises more than 15,000 calves on milk annually.

Andersen says that their goal is to consistently feed 14 percent solids to their calves, day-in and day-out. "Consistency in their nutrition is a huge factor in them doing well," says Andersen.

At Sawtooth Cattle Company, upon receipt, the waste milk is pasteurized. After the waste milk has been pasteurized it is weighed to determine how many pounds total there are in the batch. Then

a refractometer is used to determine the existing solids content. Andersen says the solids can vary significantly, but typically will come in around the 11 percent range.

The solids content and pounds of milk are then entered into a spreadsheet that helps Andersen calculate how much milk replacer and water need to be added to achieve their feeding goals. A 24 percent protein and 20 percent fat milk replacer is used to supplement the waste milk.

Calves at Sawtooth Cattle Company receive 6 quarts per day. Holstein calves receive 3 quarts twice a day and Jersey calves receive 2 quarts three times per day.

For additional information on supplementing waste milk, go to: <http://bit.ly/1gMvS49>.

For information on pasteurizer maintenance, go to: <http://bit.ly/1gLzgfB>.



Make plans to join DCHA for the 2015 conference!

Next years conference will take place on March 30-April 1, 2015 in Madison, Wis. Additional information will be available at calfandheifer.org and [facebook.com/calfandheifer](https://www.facebook.com/calfandheifer).

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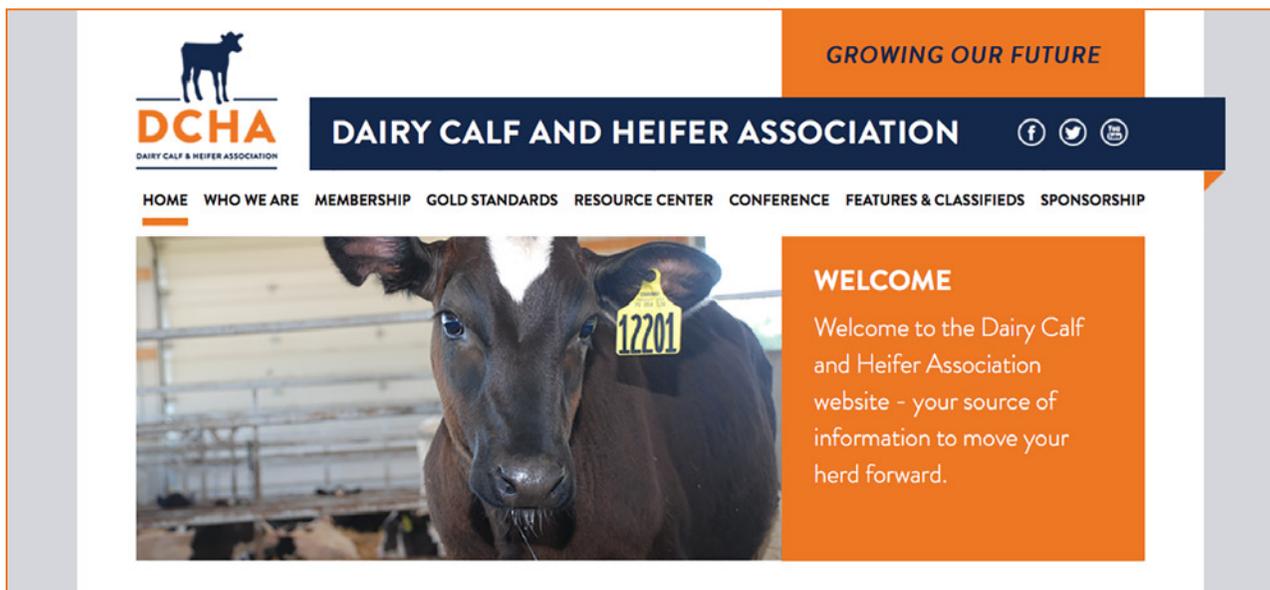
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Dairy Calf and Heifer Association unveils new website



The association is excited to introduce a new website, www.calfandheifer.org. As part of the new design, enhanced features and member-only resources will increase opportunities and benefits available to association members.

“Our goal is to make www.calfandheifer.org the industry hub and portal for calf and heifer information,” says Jack Banker, Dairy Calf and Heifer Association president and owner of Banker’s Scenic-View Farms in Black Creek, Wis. “Whether you are a dairy farmer, custom calf and heifer raiser or you raise dairy-beef, this website will be your one-stop location for insights that are important to your business, including connecting with other members.”

To achieve this goal, DCHA will be rolling out phases of the new website over the next year. Features introduced during the first phase include:

- **RESOURCE CENTER**

The resource center will have industry news, management tips for all life stages of raising calves, business management insights, as well as the latest association happenings. In-depth educational resources will be available under the members’ only section.

- **MEMBER FEATURES AND CLASSIFIEDS**

Association members have the opportunity to create profiles featuring their businesses and management practices. Additionally, members can also place classifieds on a short-term basis to market their services and openings for calves.

- **ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The new website will serve as the primary information source for the DCHA conference including agenda and speaker updates as well as registration.

- **GOLD STANDARDS (coming soon)**

The Gold Standards are becoming the benchmarking standard for raising calves and heifers. Enhanced and more detailed information on these key performance indicators will soon be available.

- **MEMBER DIRECTORY AND SEARCH (coming soon)**

Members of the association will soon have the ability to search for one another in the new members’ only section of the website.

“The new website is one of the many tools that we will utilize to bring business and management insights to our members,” says Banker.

FROM THE FIELD: Danielle Penney

“I cover tech support from coast to coast, and the Dairy Calf and Heifer Association provides us the opportunity to come together and share ideas. We can all come together to figure out what’s working in one part of the country and apply it to other parts of the country where we’re missing opportunities.

Also, the guidelines and promotions DCHA does for the dairy industry in general are so beneficial. Taking that proactive approach is something that we need from our industry as a whole. They help bridge that gap, get producers more involved, increase awareness of the things that need to be looked at on our farms, and help everyone get on a more uniform page to send the same message.”

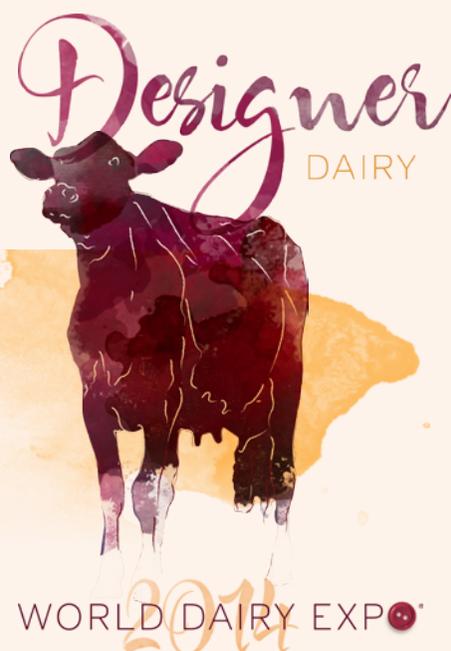
Danielle Penney, Nutra Blend, Walden, NY



Stop and see us at World Dairy Expo

Stop by booth #905 in the New Holland Trade Center during the week of September 30 – October 4 where you can:

- NETWORK WITH FELLOW DCHA MEMBERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
- LEARN WHAT’S NEW WITH THE ASSOCIATION.
- GET A SNEAK PEAK AT THE 2015 DCHA CONFERENCE AGENDA.



Member benefits; renew today

It’s never too early to renew your membership and encourage fellow producers and colleagues to join the association! Look for our 2015 membership renewal incentives coming soon.

AS A MEMBER OF DCHA, YOU CAN EXPECT:

- **Information**, that is unbiased, for those with a vested interest in the calf and heifer segment of our industry.
- **Networking** opportunities to learn from other calf and heifer raisers and industry professionals.
- **Performance** and sustainability of calf and heifer raising from timely and accurate information and technology.
- **Involvement** in and access to the DCHA Gold Standards for calf and heifer raising programs.
- **Leadership and management** skill building opportunities.
- **Connections** that count when it comes to research, product development, services and expertise you need or can offer others.
- **Commitment** to enhancing the expertise, collaboration and success of all managers, employees and producers.

Heifer Notes is published quarterly by the Dairy Calf and Heifer Association and distributed to all DCHA members and associated organizations through a partnership with Hoard’s Dairyman.