

**Water****Fan Demo****Vet News****Dairy Day**

Water

From time to time the fact is brought up that dairies use a lot of water. Along with human population increased demand for water this leads to fears of returning the San Joaquin Valley into a desert. It should be remembered and mentioned to persons with these concerns that dairies are one of the most efficient ways of recycling water and not just using it up. Fresh water is used and reused on a dairy up to four or five times for various chores before “ending” with irrigation water in adjacent fields. An acre of corn contributes more humidity into the air than a lake of the same size.

About 100 gallons of water is used per cow daily. A cow drinks on the average around 30 gallons daily. This is used to help digest the ag by-products fed to her (that otherwise would end in landfills). The consumed water is recycled in milk, which is nearly 90% water. “Cow water” or moisture taken out of dairy product processing, as in milk powder, is recycled for steam generation or other uses in the processing plant. The other 70 gallons per cow daily usage is first for wash-ups and sanitation, then used to flush barns and feeding areas, then often recycled for more flushes, then reused on crops.

A local newspaper article mentioned the average person in this area uses from 100 to 300 gallons of

water daily and a three-person household may use 3,750 gallons each day. A 10-minute shower can use 55 gallons of water, and a leaky faucet can waste 100 gallons in 24 hours. One gallon of gasoline can contaminate 750,000 gallons of water. The human being is 66% water and the brain is 75% water. A person can only survive 7 days without water. Consequently, more time should be used to find more ways to recycle all water like what is being done on dairies.

Fan Demo

It is well known that heat stress reduces cow feed intake and eventually milk production and reproduction performance. It is also known that running fans to improve cow comfort during heat stress costs money. The objective to meet this situation is being observed on two Tulare dairies. High-volume, low-speed (HVLS) fans are being used in holding pens and free-stalls. Observations are being made on cow respirations per minute as an indicator of heat stress during afternoons, and this will be combined with DHIA and creamery cow performance figures. Comparisons are being made with low-volume, high-speed (LVHS) fans for electrical power savings. There will be a demonstration and preliminary results report on September 6th at these dairies. See annexed page for details.

Vet News

Fluoroquinolones, such as Baytril 100, are not to be used to treat female dairy animals “intended for milk production.” This includes dry cows and heifers. Nor is it to be stored on the “dairy operation.” This includes milk house, milk parlor, and surrounding buildings where cows or heifers are kept. If you have any questions on this, contact your veterinarian or the UCVMTTC.

South Valley Dairy Day

Mark your calendars! Wednesday, January 24, will be the date for the annual South Valley Dairy Day. It will be held at the Edison AgTAC building south of Tulare on Laspina. Details on the program will be coming in a future "Milk Lines." The agenda will include timely topics for the dairy industry and a live demonstration on hoof trimming techniques. Pass the word to set aside that day.

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