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Dairy Replacement Programs: Costs & Analysis
3rd Quarter 2012 Published

The analysis of the costs to raise dairy replacements during the 3rd quarter of 2012 are complete, and the final report is now available on the PRO-DAIRY Web site at http://ansci.cornell.edu/prodairy/resources/fbmpubs.html.

This is the fourth time that the costs were reviewed on dairy farms located across New York State. The average total cost to raise the dairy replacement (not including the value of the animal when born) until they entered the herd for each of these studies was:

- 1993 $1,044
- 2003 $1,429
- 2007 $1,734
- 2012 $2,084

The top five expenses per heifer completing the dairy replacement program for the 3rd quarter of 2012 are:

Now Accepting Applications for Cornell Dairy Executive Program Class XI

Enrollment is underway for Class XI of the Cornell Dairy Executive Program. Applications submitted before June 9 will receive a $300 discount towards the first program installment.

The Cornell Dairy Executive Program (CDEP) provides professional, cutting-edge management training for progressive dairy producers in New York and across the country.

With input and support from producers and agriservice, this year-long program is designed to enhance understanding of the fast-changing dairy industry. Participants will develop leadership and business management skills lead their dairy business into the future.

Qualified applicants are well-rounded individuals who:

- are motivated to achieve business excellence through personal growth
- have five or more years of dairy experience in a decision making position
- are interested in creating a network of dairy producers and industry leaders
- value pursuit of meaningful goals in dairy business
Feed per Heifer: $1,112 53.3%
Labor per Heifer: $252 12.1%
Interest on Daily Investment per Heifer: $143 6.9%
Bedding per Heifer: $90 4.3%
Building Ownership per Heifer: $90 4.3%

These five expenses represent 80.9% of the total cost to raise the dairy replacement.

Average raising cost per day per heifer was $2.995 with an average calving age of 23.0 months. The average daily costs ranged from almost $6.50 while the calf was on liquid feed, to $2.00 to $2.20 per day from weaning to breeding to $2.60 to $2.70 from breeding to close-up and back over $3.50 right before calving.

Mission PRO-DAIRY’S mission is to facilitate New York State economic development by increasing the profitability and competitiveness of its dairy industry. PRO-DAIRY specialists have made a positive impact on the technical knowledge, management skills and economic strength of New York State’s dairy industry since 1988.

Find PRO-DAIRY online at:
- Visit the PRO-DAIRY Web site to sign up for e-Leader and for more program information: http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/prodairy/
- Like us on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/pages/PRO-Dairy-at-Cornell/160696327285694

Advanced Dairy Nutrition and Management Shortcourse

The Advanced Dairy Nutrition and Manager Shortcourse is scheduled for June 2 through Cornell University. The shortcourse is designed to expose experienced nutritionists, allied industry professionals and veterinarians to latest research and its application within dairy nutrition and management. This shortcourse taught on even-numbered years by Cornell faculty, Miner Institute staff and guest speakers from other universities. Evening social events are planned to provide networking opportunities for participants.

For more information, visit: http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/dairyexec/adn_course/index.html

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