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# *SINES*



# INTENSIVE GRAZING FARMS NEW YORK 2008



George Conneman
Jason Karszes
James Grace
Rodger Beck
A. Edward Staehr
A. Fay Benson
Peggy Murray
Nancy Glazier
Virginia Carlberg
Jessica Anderson
Linda Putnam

Department of Applied Economics and Management College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853-7801 It is the Policy of Cornell University actively to support equality of educational and employment opportunity. No person shall be denied admission to any educational program or activity or be denied employment on the basis of any legally prohibited discrimination involving, but not limited to, such factors as race, color, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, sex, age or handicap. The University is committed to the maintenance of affirmative action programs which will assure the continuation of such equality of opportunity.

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For additional copies, please contact:

Linda Putnam Cornell University Dept of Applied Economics & Management 305 Warren Hall Ithaca, NY 14853-7801

E-mail: ldp2@cornell.edu Fax: 607-255-1589 Voice: 607-255-8429

Or visit:

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### 2008 DAIRY FARM BUSINESS SUMMARY

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### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This report was written by the Intensive Grazing Committee consisting of George Conneman, Professor Emeritus, Farm Management; Jason Karszes, Senior Extension Associate, PRO-DAIRY; James Grace, Extension Educator, Steuben, Chemung and Schuyler Counties; Rodger Beck, Area Specialist, South Central New York Dairy Team; Ed Staehr, Extension Associate, Applied Economics and Management; Fay Benson, Small Farms Educator, South Central New York Dairy Team; Peggy Murray, Extension Educator, Lewis County; Nancy Glazier, Extension Support Specialist, Northwest New York Team; Virginia Carlberg, Extension Educator, Chautauqua County; Jessica Anderson, Cornell University Work-Study Student; and Linda Putnam, Extension Support Specialist, Applied Economics and Management. The committee appreciates the assistance from all the Cornell Cooperative Extension Educators that collected the Dairy Farm Business Summary data, as well as the following Extension Educators that collected the grazing practices survey data: Mariane Kiraly, Anita Deming, and Molly Ames.

### 2008 DAIRY FARM BUSINESS SUMMARY INTENSIVE GRAZING FARMS

### INTRODUCTION

Dairy farm managers throughout New York State have been participating in Cornell Cooperative Extension's farm business summary and analysis program since the early 1950's. Managers of each participating farm business receive a comprehensive summary and analysis of the farm business.

The farms included in the study are a subset of New York State farms participating in the Dairy Farm Business Summary and Analysis Program (DFBS). Forty-two New York farms indicated that they grazed dairy cows at least three months, moving to a fresh paddock at least every three days and more than 30% of the forage consumed during the growing season was from grazing. Operators of these 42 farms were asked to complete a grazing practices survey. Twenty-two of the farms did complete it. The study centered on 31 New York farms which were not organic farms and were not first year grazers. The "Non-Grazers" are 104 farms with similar herd size to the grazing farms and are compared to the average of the 31 grazing farms.

### **Program Objective**

The primary objective of the Dairy Farm Business Summary (DFBS) is to help farm managers improve the business and financial management of their business through appropriate use of historical farm data and the application of modern farm business analysis techniques. This information can also be used to establish goals that will enable the business to better meet its objectives. In short, DFBS provides business and financial information needed in identifying and evaluating strengths and weaknesses of the farm business.

### **Format Features**

The first section compares intensive grazing farms that participated in the Dairy Farm Business Summary (DFBS) Project in 2007 and 2008. A ten-year comparison is also included this year. The second section of this publication reports data from the grazing practices survey. A comparison of intensive grazing farms with non-grazing farms is included on page 10. The third section, Case Studies, describes two grazing farms. The fourth section summarizes grazing farms by herd size.

The summary and analysis portion of this report follows the same general format as in the 2008 DFBS individual farm report received by all participating dairy farmers. It may be used by any dairy farm manager who wants to compare his or her business with the average data of intensive grazing farms. Non-DFBS participants can download a DFBS Data Check-In Form at <a href="http://dfbs.cornell.edu">http://dfbs.cornell.edu</a>. After collecting data on the form, it can be entered in the U.S. Top Dairies business summary program at the same website to obtain a summary of their business.

The summary and analysis portion of the report features:

- (1) an <u>income statement</u> including accrual adjustments for farm business expenses and receipts, as well as measures of profitability with and without appreciation,
- (2) a complete <u>balance sheet</u> with analytical ratios;
- (3) a statement of owner equity which shows the sources of the change in owner equity during the year;
- (4) a cash flow statement and debt repayment ability analysis;
- (5) an analysis of crop <u>acreage</u>, <u>yields</u>, <u>and expenses</u>;
- (6) an analysis of <u>dairy livestock numbers</u>, <u>production</u>, <u>and expenses</u>; and
- (7) a <u>capital and labor efficiency</u> analysis.

### PROGRESS OF THE FARM BUSINESS

Comparing your business with average financial data from Dairy Farm Business Summary (DFBS) grazing farms that participated for the last two years can be helpful in analyzing performance<sup>1</sup> and establishing goals for your business. It is equally important for you to determine the progress your business has made over the past two or three years, to compare this progress to your goals, and to set goals for the future. Please refer to the table on page 3 for selected factors from 30 farms that were grazing in both 2007 and 2008 and participated in the DFBS project for both years.

These 30 farms increased in herd size from 121 cows in 2007 to 129 cows in 2008. Along with the increase in cow numbers, the average number of heifers increased from 95 to 98 head. The average number of cows increased and so did the total pounds of milk sold; therefore, the milk sold per cow remained essentially unchanged.

There was a 1.7 percent increase in worker equivalents, to 2.94, but with the increase in cow numbers, cows per worker equivalent increased from 42 to 44. Milk sold per worker equivalent increased only 3.5 percent, due to the decrease in production per cow. The increase in milk sold per worker equivalent was offset by an increase of 16.9 percent in average cost per worker (from \$28,324 in 2007 to \$33,118 in 2008), resulting in a 14.6 percent increase in the hired labor cost per hundredweight of milk produced.

The 2008 growing season was relatively normal across New York State. For these grazing farms, corn yields decreased from 17.6 to 16.9 tons per acre, while hay yields increased from 1.9 to 2.3 tons per acre.

The major factor impacting farm profitability in 2008 was the increase in the cost of grain, which rose 30.4 percent, from \$4.86 to \$5.99 per hundredweight in 2008. The cost of fertilizer also increased leading to a dairy feed and crop expense increase of 23.7 percent. These increases, coupled with other price increases, led to operating costs per hundredweight increasing 12.6 percent from \$16.43 to \$18.50. At the same time the price received per hundredweight of milk decreased 5.9 percent from \$21.21 to \$19.96. The lower milk price and stable production per cow resulted in gross milk sales per cow decreasing from \$3,532 to \$3,303 or 6.5 percent. The value of dairy cattle increased this year and the beef market recovered from last year's low prices with dairy sales per cow increasing 38.8 percent.

With farm revenue decreasing from the prior year and operating costs increasing the total costs of producing a hundred-weight of milk increased 8.7 percent from \$19.24 to \$20.91 in 2008.

The amount of investment per cow continued its upward trend, increasing from \$7,846 to \$8,169 or 4.1 percent. This resulted from the value of machinery and equipment increasing 7.8 percent and cattle and land worth more than in 2007. Debt per cow increased 7.6 percent to \$2,418 for 2008. Farm net worth increased 3.2 percent to \$779,684.

The above factors combined to result in lower profitability in 2008 than in 2007.

### **Profitability Measures**

- Net farm income without appreciation decreased 41.7 percent to \$74,300.
- Net farm income per cow without appreciation decreased 45.4 percent, from \$1,053 to \$575.
- Net farm income with appreciation decreased 57.4 percent to \$73,776.
- Labor and management income per operator decreased from \$63,865 to \$20,578.
- Rate of return on equity capital without appreciation decreased from 10.7 percent to 2.4 percent.
- Rate of return on all capital without appreciation decreased from 9.5 percent to 3.0 percent.

While 2008 was a profitable year, it had a large decrease in profitability from last year; however, 2007, with its high milk price and average operating costs, was a high profit year.

The importance of trend analysis is to identify what areas changed, ask why they changed, and look at what you can do differently in the future to influence that change. If you would like help in developing and looking at the trends in your business, contact your local Cornell Cooperative Extension office and become involved in a financial management education program.

**PROGRESS OF THE FARM BUSINESS** Same 30 Grazing Dairy Farms, 2007 & 2008

	Averag	Percent	
Selected Factors	2007	2008	Change
Size of Business			
Average number of cows	121	129	6.6
Average number of heifers	95	98	3.2
Milk sold, lbs.	2,021,861	2,128,002	5.3
Worker equivalent	2.89	2.94	1.7
Total nontillable and tillable pasture & hay acres	301	313	4.0
Total nontillable pasture & tillable acres	360	380	5.6
Rates of Production			
Milk sold per cow, lbs.	16,650	16,547	-0.6
Hay DM per acre, tons	1.9	2.3	21.1
Corn silage per acre, tons	17.6	16.9	-4.0
Stocking rate	2.94	2.91	-1.0
Labor Efficiency & Costs	<b>2.</b> , .	, 1	1.0
Cows per worker	42	44	4.8
Milk sold per worker, lbs.	699,606	723,810	3.5
Hired labor cost per cwt.	\$1.64	\$1.88	14.6
Hired labor cost per cwt. Hired labor cost per worker	\$28,324	\$33,118	16.9
Hired labor cost per worker  Hired labor cost as % of milk sales	\$28,324 7.7%	9.4%	22.1
Cost Control	1.170	<b>7.4</b> %	∠∠.1
	23%	30%	30.4
Grain & concentrate purchased as % of milk sales		\$5.99	23.3
Grain & concentrate per cwt. milk	\$4.86	·	
Dairy feed & crop expense per cwt. milk	\$6.62	\$8.19	23.7
Labor & machinery costs per cow	\$1,351	\$1,454	7.6
Total farm operating costs per cwt. sold	\$16.43	\$18.50	12.6
Interest costs per cwt. milk	\$0.79	\$0.61	-22.8
Milk marketing costs per cwt. milk sold	\$0.95	\$1.06	11.6
Operating cost of producing cwt. of milk	\$13.43	\$14.74	9.8
Total costs of producing cwt. of milk	\$19.24	\$20.91	8.7
Capital Efficiency (average for the year)			
Farm capital per cow	\$7,846	\$8,169	4.1
Machinery & equipment per cow	\$1,391	\$1,499	7.8
Asset turnover ratio	0.56	0.48	-14.3
Income Generation			
Gross milk sales per cow	\$3,532	\$3,303	-6.5
Gross milk sales per cwt.	\$21.21	\$19.96	-5.9
Net milk sales per cwt.	\$20.26	\$18.91	-6.7
Dairy cattle sales per cow	\$237	\$329	38.8
Dairy calf sales per cow	\$60	\$26	-56.7
Government receipts per cwt.	\$0.47	\$0.23	-51.1
Profitability	,	,	
Net farm income without appreciation	\$127,469	\$74,300	-41.7
Net farm income with appreciation	\$173,058	\$73,776	-57.4
Labor & mgt. income per operator/manager	\$63,865	\$20,578	-67.8
Labor & mgt. income per operator/manager  Labor & mgt. income per oper./manager per cow	\$528	\$20,378 \$160	-69.7
Rate of return on equity capital without apprec.	10.7%	2.4%	-09.7 -77.6
Rate of return on all capital without appreciation	9.5%	3.0%	-77.6 -68.4
	7.370	3.0%	-00.4
Financial Summary	\$755 550	¢770.694	2.0
Farm net worth, end year	\$755,559	\$779,684	3.2
Debt to asset ratio	0.26	0.28	7.7
Farm debt per cow	\$2,248	\$2,418	7.6

### TEN YEAR COMPARISON: SELECTED BUSINESS FACTORS New York Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 1999 to 2008

Number of farms	Item	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total tillable acres rented   227   271   288   243   270   267   264   254   273   317   311   311   311   311   312   315	Number of farms	65	65	54	30	27	30	42	42	36	31
Total tillable acres rented   105   133   142   125   126   96   110   145   132   159   149   149   133   143   145   162   176	Cronning Program										
Tillable acres rented 105 133 142 125 126 96 110 145 132 159 Hay crop acres 120 139 152 119 149 133 143 145 162 176 Corn silage acres 42 44 37 22 28 38 34 41 39 47 Hay crop, tons DM/acre 2.1 2.7 2.2 2.2 3.7 2.9 1.9 2.2 2.0 2.3 Corn silage, tons/acre 13.9 12.0 15.5 12.4 15.3 15.3 14.9 15.5 17.6 16.9 Fertilizer & lime exp/tillable acre \$25 \$20 \$22 \$30 \$21 \$31 \$31 \$31 \$29 \$45 \$52 Machinery cost/cow \$545 \$501 \$528 \$439 \$447 \$598 \$586 \$590 \$688 \$739 \$\$\$\$\$\$Number of cows 79 93 94 94 100 104 95 101 110 127 Number of heifers 60 67 70 68 72 74 76 83 87 97 Milk sold, cwt. 14,477 15,860 15,396 15,366 15,687 15,637 17,44 15,868 17,168 18,243 21,111 Milk sold/cow, lbs. 18,346 17,107 16,295 16,618 15,684 17,144 16,783 17,054 16,627 16,593 Purchased dairy feed/cwt. milk \$3.65 \$3.88 \$4.19 \$4.21 \$4.45 \$4.46 \$4.48 \$4.41 \$5.46 \$6.77 Purchased grain & concentrate as % of milk receipts 23% 27% 23% 28% 29% 25% 26% 30% 23% 31% Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk \$4.39 \$4.56 \$4.94 \$4.99 \$5.06 \$5.55 \$5.34 \$5.30 \$6.59 \$8.14 \$0.77 Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk \$4.39 \$4.56 \$4.94 \$4.99 \$5.06 \$5.55 \$5.34 \$5.30 \$6.59 \$8.14 \$0.77 Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk \$4.39 \$4.56 \$4.94 \$4.99 \$5.06 \$5.55 \$5.34 \$5.30 \$6.59 \$8.14 \$0.77 Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk \$4.39 \$4.56 \$4.94 \$4.99 \$5.06 \$5.55 \$5.34 \$5.30 \$6.59 \$8.14 \$0.77 Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk \$4.39 \$4.56 \$4.94 \$4.99 \$5.06 \$5.55 \$5.34 \$5.30 \$6.59 \$8.14 \$0.77 Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk \$4.39 \$4.56 \$4.94 \$4.99 \$5.06 \$5.55 \$5.34 \$5.30 \$6.59 \$8.14 \$0.77 Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk \$4.39 \$4.56 \$4.94 \$4.99 \$5.06 \$5.55 \$5.34 \$5.30 \$6.59 \$8.14 \$0.77 \$		227	271	288	243	270	267	264	254	273	317
Hay crop acres 120 139 152 119 149 133 143 145 162 176 Corn silage acres 42 44 37 22 28 38 38 34 41 39 47 Hay crop, tons DM/acre 2.1 2.7 2.2 2.2 3.7 2.9 1.9 2.2 2.0 2.3 Corn silage, tons/acre 13.9 12.0 15.5 12.4 15.3 15.3 14.9 15.5 17.6 16.9 Fertilizer & lime exp./tillable acre \$25\$ \$20\$ \$22\$ \$30\$ \$21\$ \$31\$ \$31\$ \$29\$ \$45\$ \$52\$ Machinery cost/cow \$545\$ \$501\$ \$528\$ \$439\$ \$447\$ \$598\$ \$586\$ \$590\$ \$688 \$739\$ \$\frac{Dairy Analysis}{Machinery cost/cow}\$ 79 93 94 94 100 104 95 101 110 127 Number of cows 79 93 94 94 100 104 95 101 110 127 Number of heifers 60 67 70 68 72 74 76 83 87 97 \$\frac{AS}{Milk sold, cwt.}\$ 14,477 15,860 15,396 15,687 15,637 17,744 15,868 17,168 18,243 21,111 Milk sold/cow, lbs. 18,346 17,107 16,295 16,618 15,684 17,144 16,783 17,054 16,627 16,593 Purchased dairy feed/cwt. milk \$3.65\$ \$3.88 \$4.19 \$4.21 \$4.45 \$4.76 \$4.48 \$4.41 \$5.46 \$6.77 Purchased grain & concentrate as \$\frac{AS}{MOSTAN MIRK of milk receipts}\$ 23% 27% 23% 28% 29% 25% 26% 30% 23% 31% Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk \$4.39\$ \$4.56 \$4.94 \$4.99 \$5.06 \$5.55 \$5.34 \$5.30 \$6.59 \$8.14 Operating cost producing milk/cwt. \$10.53 \$10.17 \$11.71 \$9.76 \$9.53 \$11.83 \$11.35 \$10.58 \$13.56 \$14.84 \$0.00 \$1.									_		
Com silage acres         42         44         37         22         28         38         34         41         39         47           Hay crop, tons DM/acre         2.1         2.7         2.2         2.2         3.7         2.9         1.9         2.2         2.0         2.3           Corn silage, tons/acre         13.9         12.0         15.5         12.4         15.3         15.3         14.9         15.5         17.6         16.9           Fertilizer & lime exp./tillable acre         \$25         \$20         \$22         \$30         \$21         \$31         \$31         \$29         \$45         \$52           Machinery cost/cow         \$545         \$501         \$528         \$439         \$447         \$598         \$586         \$590         \$688         \$739           Dairy Analysis         \$545         \$501         \$528         \$439         \$447         \$598         \$586         \$590         \$688         \$739           Dairy Analysis         \$545         \$501         \$528         \$439         \$447         \$598         \$586         \$590         \$688         \$739           Dairy Analysis         \$546         \$60         67         70         68											
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Corn silage, tons/acre         13.9         12.0         15.5         12.4         15.3         15.3         14.9         15.5         17.6         16.9           Fertilizer & lime exp./tillable acre         \$25         \$20         \$22         \$30         \$21         \$31         \$31         \$29         \$45         \$52           Machinery cost/cow         \$545         \$501         \$528         \$439         \$447         \$598         \$586         \$590         \$688         \$739           Dairy Analysis         Number of cows         79         93         94         94         100         104         95         101         110         127           Number of heifers         60         67         70         68         72         74         76         83         87         97           Milk sold, cwt.         14,477         15,860         15,396         15,687         15,637         17,744         15,868         17,168         18,243         21,11           Milk sold/cow, lbs.         18,346         17,107         16,295         16,618         15,684         17,144         16,783         17,054         16,627         16,593           Purchased dairy feed/cwt. milk         <											
Pertilizer & lime exp./tillable acre   \$25   \$20   \$22   \$30   \$21   \$31   \$31   \$29   \$45   \$52   \$30   \$447   \$598   \$586   \$590   \$688   \$739   \$20   \$39   \$											
Machinery cost/cow         \$545         \$501         \$528         \$439         \$447         \$598         \$586         \$590         \$688         \$739           Dairy Analysis         Number of cows         79         93         94         94         100         104         95         101         110         127           Number of heifers         60         67         70         68         72         74         76         83         87         97           Milk sold, cwt.         14,477         15,860         15,396         15,687         15,637         17,744         15,868         17,168         18,243         21,111           Milk sold/cow, lbs.         18,346         17,107         16,295         16,618         15,684         17,144         16,783         17,054         16,627         16,593           Purchased dairy feed/cwt. milk         \$3.65         \$3.88         \$4.19         \$4.21         \$4.45         \$4.76         \$4.48         \$4.41         \$5.46         \$6.77           Purchased grain & concentrate as         23%         27%         23%         28%         29%         25%         26%         30%         23%         31%           Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk											
Number of cows         79         93         94         94         100         104         95         101         110         127           Number of heifers         60         67         70         68         72         74         76         83         87         97           Milk sold, cwt.         14,477         15,860         15,396         15,687         15,637         17,744         15,868         17,168         18,243         21,111           Milk sold/cow, lbs.         18,346         17,107         16,295         16,618         15,684         17,144         16,783         17,054         16,627         16,593           Purchased dairy feed/cwt. milk         \$3.65         \$3.88         \$4.19         \$4.21         \$4.45         \$4.76         \$4.48         \$4.41         \$5.46         \$6.77           Purchased grain & concentrate as         23%         27%         23%         28%         29%         25%         26%         30%         23%         31%           Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk         \$4.39         \$4.56         \$4.94         \$4.99         \$5.06         \$5.55         \$5.34         \$5.30         \$6.59         \$8.14           Operating cost producing milk/cwt.											
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Number of heifers         60         67         70         68         72         74         76         83         87         97           Milk sold, cwt.         14,477         15,860         15,396         15,687         15,637         17,744         15,868         17,168         18,243         21,111           Milk sold/cow, lbs.         18,346         17,107         16,295         16,618         15,684         17,144         16,783         17,054         16,627         16,593           Purchased dairy feed/cwt. milk         \$3.65         \$3.88         \$4.19         \$4.21         \$4.45         \$4.76         \$4.48         \$4.41         \$5.46         \$6.77           Purchased grain & concentrate as         \$3.88         \$4.19         \$4.21         \$4.45         \$4.76         \$4.48         \$4.41         \$5.46         \$6.77           Purchased grain & concentrate as         \$3.89         \$4.99         \$2.5%         \$2.6%         30%         \$2.3%         31%           Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk         \$4.39         \$4.56         \$4.94         \$4.99         \$5.06         \$5.55         \$5.34         \$5.30         \$6.59         \$8.14           Operating cost producing milk/cwt.         \$10.53         \$10.1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	70	03	0.4	0.4	100	104	05	101	110	127
Milk sold, cwt.         14,477         15,860         15,396         15,687         15,637         17,744         15,868         17,168         18,243         21,111           Milk sold/cow, lbs.         18,346         17,107         16,295         16,618         15,684         17,144         16,783         17,054         16,627         16,593           Purchased dairy feed/cwt. milk         \$3.65         \$3.88         \$4.19         \$4.21         \$4.45         \$4.76         \$4.48         \$4.41         \$5.46         \$6.77           Purchased grain & concentrate as         "% of milk receipts         23%         27%         23%         28%         29%         25%         26%         30%         23%         31%           Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk         \$4.39         \$4.56         \$4.94         \$4.99         \$5.06         \$5.55         \$5.34         \$5.30         \$6.59         \$8.14           Operating cost producing milk/cwt.         \$10.53         \$10.17         \$11.71         \$9.76         \$9.53         \$11.83         \$11.35         \$10.58         \$13.56         \$14.84           Veterinary & medicine exp./cow         \$68         \$66         \$67         \$57         \$59         \$74         \$67         \$8.3											
Milk sold/cow, lbs.         18,346         17,107         16,295         16,618         15,684         17,144         16,783         17,054         16,627         16,593           Purchased dairy feed/cwt. milk         \$3.65         \$3.88         \$4.19         \$4.21         \$4.45         \$4.76         \$4.48         \$4.41         \$5.46         \$6.77           Purchased grain & concentrate as         "Wear of milk receipts         23%         27%         23%         28%         29%         25%         26%         30%         23%         31%           Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk         \$4.39         \$4.56         \$4.94         \$4.99         \$5.06         \$5.55         \$5.34         \$5.30         \$6.59         \$8.14           Operating cost producing milk/cwt.         \$10.53         \$10.17         \$11.71         \$9.76         \$9.53         \$11.83         \$11.35         \$10.58         \$13.56         \$14.84           Veterinary & medicine exp./cow         \$68         \$66         \$67         \$57         \$59         \$74         \$67         \$83         \$85         \$88           Capital Efficiency         Farm capital/cow         \$6,236         \$6,445         \$6,841         \$5,870         \$6,286         \$7,300         \$7,526 <td></td>											
Purchased dairy feed/cwt. milk         \$3.65         \$3.88         \$4.19         \$4.21         \$4.45         \$4.76         \$4.48         \$4.41         \$5.46         \$6.77           Purchased grain & concentrate as         "We of milk receipts         23%         27%         23%         28%         29%         25%         26%         30%         23%         31%           Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk         \$4.39         \$4.56         \$4.94         \$4.99         \$5.06         \$5.55         \$5.34         \$5.30         \$6.59         \$8.14           Operating cost producing milk/cwt.         \$10.53         \$10.17         \$11.71         \$9.76         \$9.53         \$11.83         \$11.35         \$10.58         \$13.56         \$14.84           Veterinary & medicine exp./cow         \$68         \$66         \$67         \$57         \$59         \$74         \$67         \$83         \$85         \$88           Capital Efficiency         \$6,236         \$6,445         \$6,841         \$5,870         \$6,286         \$7,300         \$7,526         \$7,667         \$8,158         \$8,244           Real estate/cow         \$2,508         \$2,791         \$2,951         \$2,389         \$2,738         \$3,475         \$3,369         \$3,249         \$3			,	,	,	,		,	,	,	,
Purchased grain & concentrate as         % of milk receipts       23%       27%       23%       28%       29%       25%       26%       30%       23%       31%         Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk       \$4.39       \$4.56       \$4.94       \$4.99       \$5.06       \$5.55       \$5.34       \$5.30       \$6.59       \$8.14         Operating cost producing milk/cwt.       \$10.53       \$10.17       \$11.71       \$9.76       \$9.53       \$11.83       \$11.35       \$10.58       \$13.56       \$14.84         Veterinary & medicine exp./cow       \$68       \$66       \$67       \$57       \$59       \$74       \$67       \$83       \$85       \$88         Capital Efficiency       Farm capital/cow       \$6,236       \$6,445       \$6,841       \$5,870       \$6,286       \$7,300       \$7,526       \$7,667       \$8,158       \$8,244         Real estate/cow       \$2,508       \$2,791       \$2,951       \$2,389       \$2,738       \$3,475       \$3,369       \$3,249       \$3,445       \$3,382											
% of milk receipts         23%         27%         23%         28%         29%         25%         26%         30%         23%         31%           Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk         \$4.39         \$4.56         \$4.94         \$4.99         \$5.06         \$5.55         \$5.34         \$5.30         \$6.59         \$8.14           Operating cost producing milk/cwt.         \$10.53         \$10.17         \$11.71         \$9.76         \$9.53         \$11.83         \$11.35         \$10.58         \$13.56         \$14.84           Veterinary & medicine exp./cow         \$68         \$66         \$67         \$57         \$59         \$74         \$67         \$83         \$85         \$88           Capital Efficiency         \$6,236         \$6,445         \$6,841         \$5,870         \$6,286         \$7,300         \$7,526         \$7,667         \$8,158         \$8,244           Real estate/cow         \$2,508         \$2,791         \$2,951         \$2,389         \$2,738         \$3,475         \$3,369         \$3,249         \$3,445         \$3,382		Ψ3.03	Ψ3.00	ψ-1.17	ψ4.21	φτ.τ3	ψ4.70	ψ+.+0	ψτ.τ1	ψ5.40	Ψ0.77
Purchased feed & crop exp/cwt.milk         \$4.39         \$4.56         \$4.94         \$4.99         \$5.06         \$5.55         \$5.34         \$5.30         \$6.59         \$8.14           Operating cost producing milk/cwt.         \$10.53         \$10.17         \$11.71         \$9.76         \$9.53         \$11.83         \$11.35         \$10.58         \$13.56         \$14.84           Veterinary & medicine exp./cow         \$68         \$66         \$67         \$57         \$59         \$74         \$67         \$83         \$85         \$88           Capital Efficiency         Farm capital/cow         \$6,236         \$6,445         \$6,841         \$5,870         \$6,286         \$7,300         \$7,526         \$7,667         \$8,158         \$8,244           Real estate/cow         \$2,508         \$2,791         \$2,951         \$2,389         \$2,738         \$3,475         \$3,369         \$3,249         \$3,445         \$3,382		23%	27%	23%	28%	29%	25%	26%	30%	23%	31%
Operating cost producing milk/cwt.         \$10.53         \$10.17         \$11.71         \$9.76         \$9.53         \$11.83         \$11.35         \$10.58         \$13.56         \$14.84           Veterinary & medicine exp./cow         \$68         \$66         \$67         \$57         \$59         \$74         \$67         \$83         \$85         \$88           Capital Efficiency         Farm capital/cow         \$6,236         \$6,445         \$6,841         \$5,870         \$6,286         \$7,300         \$7,526         \$7,667         \$8,158         \$8,244           Real estate/cow         \$2,508         \$2,791         \$2,951         \$2,389         \$2,738         \$3,475         \$3,369         \$3,249         \$3,445         \$3,382											
Veterinary & medicine exp./cow         \$68         \$66         \$67         \$57         \$59         \$74         \$67         \$83         \$85         \$88           Capital Efficiency         Farm capital/cow         \$6,236         \$6,445         \$6,841         \$5,870         \$6,286         \$7,300         \$7,526         \$7,667         \$8,158         \$8,244           Real estate/cow         \$2,508         \$2,791         \$2,951         \$2,389         \$2,738         \$3,475         \$3,369         \$3,249         \$3,445         \$3,382											
Capital Efficiency         Farm capital/cow       \$6,236       \$6,445       \$6,841       \$5,870       \$6,286       \$7,300       \$7,526       \$7,667       \$8,158       \$8,244         Real estate/cow       \$2,508       \$2,791       \$2,951       \$2,389       \$2,738       \$3,475       \$3,369       \$3,249       \$3,445       \$3,382											
Farm capital/cow         \$6,236         \$6,445         \$6,841         \$5,870         \$6,286         \$7,300         \$7,526         \$7,667         \$8,158         \$8,244           Real estate/cow         \$2,508         \$2,791         \$2,951         \$2,389         \$2,738         \$3,475         \$3,369         \$3,249         \$3,445         \$3,382	•	7	7.00	+ - /	7	400	7	7-7-	700	7.55	+
Real estate/cow \$2,508 \$2,791 \$2,951 \$2,389 \$2,738 \$3,475 \$3,369 \$3,249 \$3,445 \$3,382		Φ. 22.	Φ = 4.4 <b>.7</b>	0.044	<b>4.5.050</b>	<b>4.53</b> 0.5	Φ <b>π</b> 200	Φ= 50 6	Φ==	<b>40.4.50</b>	<b>40.244</b>
Machinery investment/cow \$1,291 \$1,316 \$1,319 \$1,109 \$1,191 \$1,28/ \$1,33/ \$1,289 \$1,474 \$1,504											
	•										
Asset turnover ratio 0.51 0.46 0.51 0.46 0.46 0.50 0.48 0.42 0.54 0.48	Asset turnover ratio	0.51	0.46	0.51	0.46	0.46	0.50	0.48	0.42	0.54	0.48
<u>Labor Efficiency</u>	<u>Labor Efficiency</u>										
Worker equivalent 2.63 2.76 2.78 2.59 2.71 2.90 2.70 2.80 2.70 2.91	Worker equivalent	2.63	2.76	2.78	2.59	2.71	2.90	2.70	2.80	2.70	2.91
Operator/manager equivalent 1.41 1.35 1.40 1.24 1.36 1.50 1.32 1.39 1.28 1.35		1.41	1.35	1.40	1.24	1.36	1.50	1.32	1.39	1.28	1.35
Milk sold/worker, lbs. 550,437 574,630 553,819 605,677 577,020 611,862 587,165 614,066 675,657 726,309	Milk sold/worker, lbs.	550,437	574,630	553,819	605,677	577,020	611,862	587,165	614,066	675,657	726,309
Cows/worker 30 34 34 36 37 36 35 36 41 44	Cows/worker	30	34	34	36	37	36	35	36	41	44
Labor cost/cow \$715 \$644 \$717 \$683 \$681 \$732 \$746 \$744 \$705 \$711	Labor cost/cow	\$715	\$644	\$717	\$683	\$681	\$732	\$746	\$744	\$705	\$711
Hired labor exp./hired worker equiv. \$21,189 \$20,024 \$24,430 \$24,009 \$22,912 \$25,966 \$25,645 \$26,504 \$28,417 \$32,729	Hired labor exp./hired worker equiv.	\$21,189	\$20,024	\$24,430	\$24,009	\$22,912	\$25,966	\$25,645	\$26,504	\$28,417	\$32,729
Profitability & Financial Analysis	Profitability & Financial Analysis										
Labor & mgmt. income/operator \$13,203 \$1,693 \$15,205 \$2,482 \$9,638 \$22,397 \$17,801 \$1,606 \$54,684 \$19,786		\$13,203	\$1,693	\$15,205	\$2,482	\$9,638	\$22,397	\$17,801	\$1,606	\$54,684	\$19,786
Labor &mgmt income/operator/cow \$167 \$18 \$162 \$26 \$96 \$215 \$187 \$16 \$498 \$156											
Net farm income/cow w/o apprec. \$543 \$310 \$555 \$322 \$449 \$652 \$572 \$383 \$1,019 \$568											
Farm net worth, end year \$364,069 \$410,672 \$477,037 \$369,123 \$454,465 \$578,704 \$535,182 \$584,266 \$706,999 \$765,083											
Percent equity 73% 67% 71% 66% 69% 73% 72% 74% 73% 71%	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·										

### INTENSIVE GRAZING SURVEY SUMMARY

From the survey data of the 21 selected grazing farms that completed the grazing practices survey, analysis of average production levels and profitability measures are shown below. Labor and management income per operator per cow without appreciation was used to evaluate whether certain practices contributed favorably to improved profitability. Labor and management income per operator per cow is a measure of the net annual return after the operators' unpaid family labor and an equity charge for capital used in the business has been applied. This is the best way to compare diverse businesses that have high debt to those with no debt and those that may rely heavily on unpaid labor with those that have all paid labor. The farms were divided into two groups comprised of the top 50 percent and the lower 50 percent scaled from the highest to lowest labor and management income per operator per cow.

### SELECTED PRODUCTION AND PROFITABILITY MEASURES

Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

		Average of the	Average of the
	Average	Top 50%	Lower 50%
	(21 farms)	(10 farms)	(11 farms)
Labor and management income per operator per cow	\$203	\$453	\$7
Average number of cows	139	142	137
Milk sold per cow, pounds	16,043	14,513	17,488
Operating cost of producing milk per cwt.	\$14.42	\$12.36	\$16.04
Total cost of producing milk per cwt.	\$20.63	\$19.06	\$21.86

Comparison of survey data on the various grazing practices, such as water availability, supplemental feeding, pasture species, pasture management, milking system type and frequency of rotation are shown as follows:

**GRAZING PRACTICES**Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

	Number of Farms Responding	Average of All Farms Answering Question	Average of the Top 50%	Average of the Lower 50%
<u>Experience</u>				
Average years of farming experience	20	26	29	23
Average years of grazing experience	21	15	16	15
Farm Characteristics				
Percent of farms with seasonal or semi-seasonal calving	20	15%	11%	18%
Percent of farms with a parlor milking system	21	43%	20%	64%
Pasture in the Ration				
Average percent forage from pasture	16	60%	60%	60%
Average length (days) of grazing season	21	183	184	182
Average pounds of grain fed while grazing	14	12.9	13.0	12.9
Average pounds of grain fed in winter	13	16.4	15.8	16.7
Average pounds of forage dry matter fed while grazing	13	18.8	13.8	21.6
Average pounds of forage dry matter from grazing	14	18.4	19.5	17.9
Average pounds of forage dry matter fed in winter	14	35.1	33.3	36.1
Pasture Management				
Percent rotated after each milking	21	48%	50%	45%
Percent rotated daily	21	43%	40%	45%
Percent rotated every other day	21	9%	10%	9%
Percent other rotation	21	0%	0%	0%
Percent applied commercial fertilizer to pasture	20	60%	56%	64%
Percent applied manure to pasture	18	50%	44%	56%
Percent applied lime to pasture	20	25%	33%	18%
Percent that clipped pasture	21	95%	100%	91%
Percent with a weed problem	17	47%	50%	45%
Percent with water in every paddock	21	67%	70%	64%
Percent with pasture re-seeded in past 10 years	17	59%	75%	56%
Percent that mechanically harvested pastures	14	57%	80%	44%
Most common pasture species				
First		Orchardgrass	Orchardgrass	Orchardgrass
Second		Ladino Clover Native White	Ladino Clover Native White	Ladino Clover
Third		Clover	Clover	Ryegrass

Practices to increase pasture quality tended to indicate higher profitability. Those practices included having more grazing experience, rotating pastures more often, use of fertilizer, clipping weeds, re-seeding pasture, and mechanically harvesting pasture before it becomes overgrown.

### **Breeds**

Holstein was the most common breed with 9 of the farms having 95 percent or greater Holstein animals. The second most common were Jersey which were on eight farms. Farms with Holstein animals tended to have higher milk production and higher profitability both per cow and per hundredweight.

### FARMS SCALED BY BREED OF HERD

Intensive Grazing Farms, 2008

			Labor &	Labor &	
			Mgmt. Income	Mgmt. Income	Cull Rate
		Milk	per Operator	per Operator	(Sold for Beef
	Number	Production	Per Cow	Per Cwt.	or Died)
Farms that are 95+% Holstein	9	20,206	\$235	\$0.56	27.7%
Farms that are less than 95% Holstein	12	16,138	\$194	\$1.57	22.2%

### **Supplemental Feeding**

Twenty-one farms gave detailed ration data and the table below compares the 9 farms that fed corn silage to the 12 that did not. Farms that incorporated corn silage into their grazing forages tend to have higher milk production. These farms did not always have higher profitability. In past years, the feeding of corn silage has shown to be profitable some years and unprofitable others, while supplementation of pasture in general has always shown to be a profitable practice. For a more specific look at what was being fed to these grazing herds, see the following section "Grazing Season Ration Details".

### SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING

Intensive Grazing Farms, 2008

		,		
	Top 50%	(10 farms)	Lower 509	% (11 farms)
	Corn Silage	No Corn Silage	Corn Silage	No Corn Silage
	(4)	(6)	(5)	(6)
Labor & management income per oper. per cow	\$647	\$535	\$-42	\$-191
Milk sold per cow, pounds	18,536	18,475	18,461	16,370
Grain fed in summer, pounds dry matter	14.8	5.6	13.5	12.2
Corn silage fed in summer, pounds dry matter	7.7	-	9.3	-
Other forage fed in summer, pounds dry matter	1.5	2.3	3.2	5.5
Percent forage from pasture	45%	58%	44%	56%

### **Grazing Season Ration Details**

The 10 farms in the top 50 percent of profitability fed an average of 13 pounds dry matter of grain during the grazing season. Four farms fed corn silage at an average of 14.8 pounds dry matter.

The 11 farms in the lower 50 percent of profitability fed an average of 12.9 pounds dry matter of grain during the grazing season. Five of the farms fed corn silage at an average of 9.3 pounds dry matter.

### Frequency of Rotation

Ten of the farms rotated their pastures for milk cows after each milking, 9 of the farms rotated pasture every day, and 2 farms rotated pasture every other day. The table below compares the rotation frequency to milk production and labor and management income per operator per cow.

### ROTATION FREQUENCY

Intensive Grazing Farms, 2008

	Top 50% (10 farms)		Lower 50%	(11 farms)
	Rotate After Each	Other Rotation	Rotate After Each	Other Rotation
	Milking (5)	Schedule (5)	Milking (5)	Schedule (6)
Milk sold per cow, pounds	19,933	17,066	16,273	18,193
Labor and management income per				
operator per cow	\$534	\$625	\$141	\$-344

### **Water Source**

Ten farms provided the majority of water from a well while the remaining eleven provided water from a natural source (pond-4, spring-3, stream-1, and other-3).

# **WATER SOURCE** Intensive Grazing Farms, 2008

_	Upper 50% (10 farms)		Lower 50% (11 farms)	
	Well (5)	Other (5)	Well (5)	Other (6)
Milk sold per cow, pounds	18,420	18,579	15,574	18,776
Labor and management income per operator per cow	\$546	\$613	\$21	\$-243

### Milking System

Farms utilizing some sort of a parlor (herringbone, parallel, rotary, flat barn or other) were separated from those utilizing a pipeline. The type of milking system may impact the degree of control the manager has over the supplemental feeding system and the capital investment level of the farm. In total there were 9 pit parlor systems (no flat parlors) and the remaining 12 farms used pipeline systems.

# MILKING SYSTEM Intensive Grazing Farms, 2008

	Top 50% (	(10 farms)	Lower 50% (11 farms)		
	Pipeline (8)	Parlor (2)	Pipeline (4)	Parlor (7)	
Milk sold per cow, pounds	18,944	16,720	18,214	16,810	
Labor and management income per operator per cow	\$614	\$443	\$-488	\$86	
Average number of cows	47	119	53	291	

### **Commercial Fertilizer**

Fifteen farms applied fertilizer to the paddocks during the growing season. The majority of farms applied urea and others applied a blended fertilizer. It is not possible to compare pasture yields in the different systems because quantities were not measured from farms that mechanically harvested hay from pasture.

### **COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER**

Intensive Grazing Farms, 2008

	Top 50%	Top 50% (10 farms)		% (11 farms)
	Applied	Applied Did Not Apply		Did Not Apply
	Fertilizer (5)	Fertilizer (4)	Fertilizer (7)	Fertilizer (4)
Milk sold per cow, pounds	20,769	14,524	16,969	17,934
Labor and management income per operator per cow	\$589	\$583	\$17	\$-367
Stocking rate, cows per acre	1.0	1.0	1.6	1.6
Percent forage from pasture	53%	52%	49%	54%
Most common product applied	Urea		Urea	

### **Intensive Grazing Satisfaction Comments**

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, 17 farms responded with the average rating of grazing satisfaction as 4.2 with 7 farms responding 5 (very satisfied), 7 responding 4 (satisfied), 2 responding 3 (equally satisfied), and 1 responding 2 (unsatisfied). When asked whether their lifestyle has improved with the adoption of rotational grazing, 19 farms responded with 17 saying "yes" and 2 saying "no".

### **Grazing Trends**

The table below compares key figures from 1996 (the first year of the intensive grazing summary), 2008, and a 13-year average (not the same farms all 13 years). Cow numbers have increased but milk sold per cow has remained basically the same.<sup>3</sup> Operating cost of producing milk in 2008 averaged \$3.55 above the 13-year average as well as \$3.55 above 1996. Net farm income per cow without appreciation was \$51 higher in 2008 than the 13-year average.

### $2008\ GRAZING\ INFORMATION\ COMPARED\ TO\ 1996\ AND\ 1996-2008\ AVERAGE$

Intensive Grazing Farms, 1996 – 2008

	59 Grazing Dairy Farms, 1996 Average	31 Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008 Average	Grazing Dairy Farms, 1996 – 2008 Average
Number of cows	78	127	95
Milk sold per cow, pounds <sup>2</sup>	17,270	16,593	16,958
Operating cost of producing milk per cwt.	\$11.29	\$14.84	\$11.29
Net farm income per cow without apprec.	\$409	\$568	\$517
Grain and concentrate as % of milk receipts	30%	31%	27%
Grain and concentrate expense per cwt. milk	\$4.41	\$5.99	\$4.12
Price of milk per cwt.	\$14.78	\$19.99	\$15.72

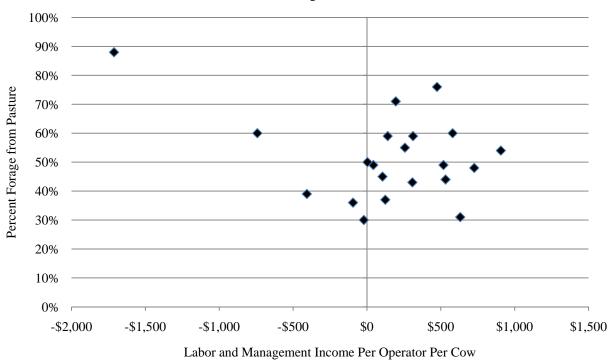
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In 1996, similar size non-grazers sold 17,547 pounds of milk per cow and in 2008 similar size non-grazers sold 21,134 pounds per cow.

### **Percent Forage from Pasture**

The following graphs compare the percent forage from pasture to labor and management incomes per operator per cow and pasture acres per cow.

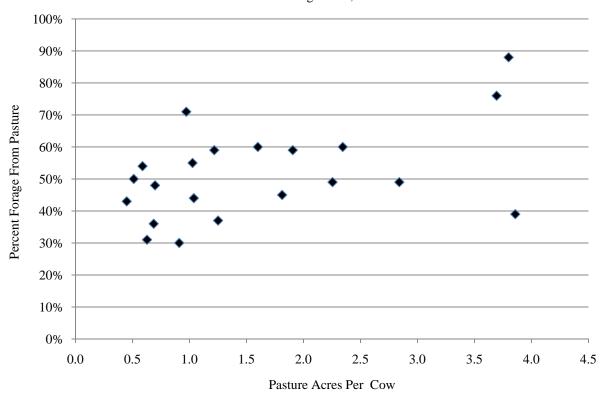
# PERCENT FORAGE FROM PASTURE VERSUS LABOR AND MANAGEMENT INCOMES PER OPERATOR PER COW

Intensive Grazing Farms, 2008



### PASTURE ACRES PER COW VERSUS PERCENT FORAGE FROM PASTURE

Intensive Grazing Farms, 2008



# INTENSIVE GRAZING FARMS VS. NON-GRAZING FARMS New York State Dairy Farms, 2008

Item	All Intensive Grazing Farms <sup>3</sup>	Non-Grazing Farms <sup>4</sup>
Number of farms	31	104
Business Size & Production		
Number of cows	127	128
Number of heifers	97	105
Milk sold, pounds	2,111,138	2,707,218
Milk sold per cow, pounds	16,593	21,134
Milk plant test, % butterfat <sup>5</sup>	3.9%	3.8%
Cull rate	22%	32%
Tillable acres, total	317	349
Hay crop, tons DM per acre	2.3	2.7
Corn silage, tons per acre	16.9	18.3
Forage dry matter per cow, tons <sup>6</sup>	5.4	9.0
Labor & Capital Efficiency		
Worker equivalent	2.91	3.88
Milk sold per worker, pounds	726,309	697,287
Cows per worker	44	33
Farm capital per worker	\$360,429	\$331,372
Farm capital per cow	\$8,244	\$10,037
Farm capital per cwt. milk	\$50	\$47
Machinery and equipment per cow	\$1,504	\$1,875
Milk Production Costs & Returns		
Selected costs per cwt.:		
Hired labor	\$1.84	\$2.05
Grain & concentrate	\$5.99	\$5.98
Purchased roughage	\$0.78	\$0.42
Replacements purchased	\$0.05	\$0.10
Vet & medicine	\$0.53	\$0.59
Milk marketing	\$1.09	\$0.98
Other dairy expenses	\$1.06	\$1.70
Operating cost of producing milk per cwt.	\$14.84	\$15.74
Total labor cost per cwt.	\$4.28	\$4.19
Owner and operator resources per cwt.	\$4.03	\$3.69
Total cost of producing milk per cwt.	\$20.97	\$21.03
Average farm price per cwt.	\$19.99	\$19.28
Related Cost Factors	417.57	Ψ19. <b>2</b> 0
Hired labor/cow	\$306	\$434
Total labor/cow	\$711	\$886
Purchased dairy feed/cow	\$1,123	\$1,355
Purchased grain & concentrate as % of milk receipts	31%	32%
Veterinary & medicine/cow	\$88	\$124
Machinery costs/cow	\$739	\$844
Feed & crop expenses/cwt.	\$8.14	\$7.71
Profitability Analysis	ψ0.14	Ψ7.71
Net farm income (with appreciation)	\$72,137	\$68,748
Net farm income (with appreciation)	\$72,137 \$72,236	\$59,064
Net farm income (without appreciation)  Net farm income per cow (without appreciation)	\$72,230 \$568	\$461
Net farm income per cwt. (without appreciation)	\$3.42	\$2.18
Labor & management income per operator	\$3.42 \$19,786	\$2.18 \$3,147
Labor & management income per operator  Labor & management income per operator per cow	\$19,786 \$156	\$3,147 \$25
Rates of return on:	φ130	$\Phi \angle \mathcal{J}$
	2.2%	1.1%
Equity capital with appreciation		
All capital with appreciation	2.9%	2.0%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Farms grazing at least three months of year, changing paddock at least every three days, forage from pasture at least 30 percent, and no organic farms.

 $<sup>^4</sup>$ Farms with similar herd size as the 31 rotational grazing farms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Average of farms reporting this data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Average of farms that grow forages.

### **CASE STUDIES**

### The Hill Farm, Stanley and Kathleen Tenpas

### History

Stan and Kathleen Tenpas began farming at their North Clymer, NY farm in 1972. They started with 132 acres of land and 20 Holstein cows. The first twenty years Stan and Kathleen rented the farm, but immediately began to put investment into improving the soil, which showed a 4.2 pH at first test. Now the Tenpas' are able to run twice the number of animals on the same amount of land by improving soil health and crop quality.

They also put investment into facilities by putting up an additional silo, building on to the barn, and tiling the fields. An early adopter of intensive grazing, they began to break up the original pasture paddocks when Stan read an article on Intensive Grazing in the Hoard's Dairyman in 1982. Although they had grazed from the first day on the farm, that summer they began to intensively graze and have done it ever since.

### **Current Operation**

Stan and Kathleen now operate 240 acres and milk a herd of 50 with about 30 youngstock. They have raised two daughters on the farm and have four grandchildren. They have a grandson and a son-in-law that helps on the farm, but otherwise hire very little labor.

The cows graze from the first of May through first snow. Stan and Kathleen have set up twelve permanent paddocks, which they split up with poly wire. The cows are on an 18 to 20 day rotation and are moved every day. Stan believes that moving the cows every day is necessary to make a grazing system work. They feed only grass and prefer reed canary and orchard grass mixtures, but have experimented with alternative crops such as millet and teff in order to extend the grazing season. They do not feed any corn silage and do not plant alfalfa because of the elevation and soil type.

Stan and Kathleen are conservation-minded, and have completed a Conservation Plan with the local Soil and Water Conservation District, and a Nutrient Management Plan. Routine practices such as soil testing and the use of filter and buffer strips have allowed the Tenpas' to receive recognition with the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Conservation Security Program.

### Overall Methodology

The Tenpas' plan is to continue to focus on producing milk cheaply and efficiently. They consider each investment very carefully, analyzing whether the investment will save time, money, or both. Investment in machinery that results in better quality forages has been one area in which the Tenpas' have focused their attention.

Stan often says there is too much emphasis on "more cows, more production, more money, and not enough emphasis on cost of production." The cows produce 21,000 pounds of milk per cow, but production is not the focus on the Hill Farm. Stan uses the Dairy Farm Business Summary to help him better understand where his costs are distributed and where he can improve profitability.

### **Grazing At Carey Farm**

"The greatest agricultural resource of New York is its exceptional adaptation for the growth of grass. Yet the hay crop has received little attention and pastures have rarely received any care . . . It would certainly seem good policy to consider means of increasing the efficiency of our pastures." (Dr. G.F. Warren, Cornell University Agr. Exp. Station Bulletin 280, 1910)

Dan and Ann Carey farm 450 acres including 100 acres of pasture near Groton, Tompkins County, New York. They are currently milking 178 Holsteins and raise 165 heifers. Cows are milked in a rapid exit herringbone parlor and housed in a freestall set-up. Annual production per cow averages about 19,500 pounds.

The Careys started their grazing program in earnest in 1997-98. Prior to this, grazing was confined mainly to dry cows and heifers and consisted of small pastures with a few wet areas. After some thought Dan identified 50 acres, seeded to orchard grass and ladino clover, that could be used for pasture. Strips of corn were also part of that original parcel. They decided to try grazing for a year. If it didn't work out, they could revert to the original cropping plan.

They talked with several smaller graziers and went to several grazing meetings. After investing in a water system and receiving a grant from Tompkins County Soil and Water for fencing, the Careys were officially a grazing dairy. Dan reminisces, "Our aim was to make things simpler, use less labor, and have more time for ourselves."

The grazing season at Carey Farm begins about April 25<sup>th</sup>. To get cows accustomed to grazing in the spring Carey uses a two-week window in early spring to transition cows from haylage and corn silage to fresh grass.

TMR is fed year around, but protein (in the form of canola) is removed in the spring leaving a ration of dry hay, corn silage, corn meal and a mineral pack. In general, Dan relies on his feed dealer for feeding recommendations.

### **Grazing Scheme**

Carey employs a two-stage rotational grazing scheme. He uses 50 acres of pasture on a continuous basis and grazes this intensively until July. This stage consists of eight paddocks ranging in size from two to six acres. He also has 50 acres of what he calls supplemental pasture. He takes two hay crops off this stage and then begins grazing six paddocks for two weeks. He can also go back to the original 50 acres as needed. With both stages he uses a break-wire system to limit access by the cows to only a portion of a paddock at a time. The break wire is used to extend access so cows can get to fresh grass after each milking. He will usually top dress the "supplemental" pasture with urea in early spring before the first crop comes off.

### Improvements, Upgrades, and Maintenance

Dan is constantly improving fencing, water systems, and laneways. Most of these he has funded himself. Paddocks fan out and begin about 500 feet from the barn. When making laneways he will follow this procedure: First, the top layer of soil is bulldozed. Gravel-to-grade is then laid down. A textile fabric is applied on top of the gravel with another layer of gravel over that. It is then rolled and topped off with a layer of stone dust. He believes that the fabric promotes better drainage and prevents wet spots.

Virtually all paddocks are seeded to orchard grass and ladino clover. He overseeds clover in the early spring when the ground is still damp and then rolls it to get better germination. Paddocks are soil tested every three years and lime is applied as needed.

### **Grazing For Heifers**

In 2000 Dan built an eight-paddock system on 15 acres for 50 heifers, three to 12 months of age. This required a \$15,000 investment for fencing and water. The reason for going to heifer grazing was, based on experience, there would be a significant reduction in labor since feeding could take place in the field and he would also be able to raise additional heifers for sale. This all happened as planned. Even though the milking herd is on a heat synchronization program, Carey believes that grazing for heifers helps them to show stronger heats. His goal for heifer grazing is to increase the amount of pasture to 60 acres in the near to midterm.

### **Grazing Benefits**

The Careys reckon there are a number of benefits to be enjoyed because of their decision to make grazing a cornerstone of their dairy operation. There is obviously less manure to haul. Dan estimates a 75% saving in labor and fuel for this function during the grazing season. He also believes there is a significant saving in purchased grain costs -- as much as a factor of two. For instance, if a cow is being fed \$2-\$3 per day of concentrates, that cost could be reduced, on average, to \$1.50 per day.

There is also savings related to machinery owned and used to produce forages. "Grazing hasn't really reduced the amount of equipment we use in making forage, but it has made that machinery last longer."

The reduced cost associated with grazing for heifers makes it financially attractive to raise more heifers than needed as replacements. The surplus can be sold and the proceeds used to bolster cash flow, to increase savings, or for discretionary spending. "Last year we sold about 40 heifers. That really made a big difference in our profitability for the year," says Carey. This is corroborated by the results of his 2008 Dairy Farm Business Summary.

Grazing also has the benefit of increasing longevity of better producing cows. Since the amount of time that cows are standing on concrete, in water, or in manure is significantly reduced, feet and legs are usually healthier and stronger. While increased longevity does have a tendency to decrease cull rates, an ample supply of heifers provides more opportunity to replace lower producers thereby increasing total herd production and net farm income per cow.

In general, Carey believes that grazing provides the means for giving cows higher quality forages at less cost during the grazing season.

On the human side, Dan believes grazing has helped his children become more involved in the farm operation. For example, he says, "They can make decisions on their own when they feel it's time to move cows or heifers to a new paddock.

### Future Business Plans

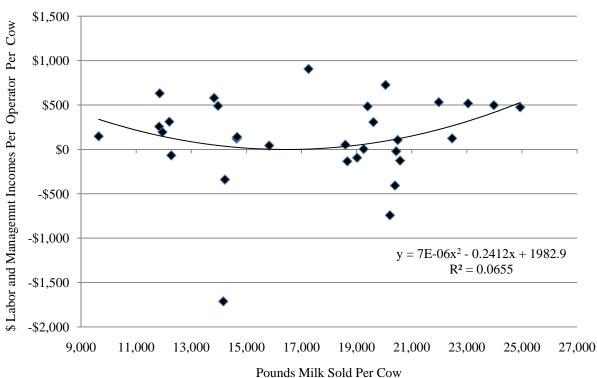
Dan believes he has reached an optimal size, but will continually look for opportunities to become more efficient and increase productivity. In general, he is very pleased with how grazing has worked out for him financially and personally. "I think the cows and heifers also have a better quality of life when they can spend it outside eating grass in the fresh air and sunshine." He also notes passersby will tell him how clean and contented his cows look.

### SUMMARY OF GRAZING FARMS BY HERD SIZE

There were 11 New York grazing farms with more than 90 cows. Herd size does not guarantee profitability, however, as small farms that are able to produce higher levels of milk per cow also show higher levels of profitability. The chart below shows the variation in labor and management income per operator per cow by pounds of milk sold per cow. The table on the following page compares grazing farms by herd size group.

# LABOR AND MANAGEMENT INCOMES PER OPERATOR PER COW AND MILK PER COW

31 Intensive Grazing Farms, 2008



### INTENSIVE GRAZING FARMS BY HERD SIZE GROUP

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Item	50 Cows Or Less	51 to 89 Cows	90 Cows Or More
Number of farms	10	10	11
Business Size & Production			
Number of cows	41	60	267
Number of heifers	33	45	203
Milk sold, lbs.	715,898	1,011,344	4,379,351
Milk sold/cow, lbs.	17,292	16,940	16,424
Milk plant test, % butterfat (ave. of farms reporting)	3.8%	N/A	3.9%
Cull rate	21%	29%	21%
Tillable acres, total	157	156	608
Hay crop, tons DM/acre	2.0	2.1	2.5
Corn silage, tons/acre	13.8	14.4	17.6
Forage tons DM/cow (ave. of farms that grow forage)	6.7	5.3	5.2
Labor & Capital Efficiency			
Worker equivalent	1.78	1.67	5.05
Milk sold/worker, lbs.	401,438	604,389	867,055
Cows/worker	23	36	53
Farm capital/worker	\$287,079	\$308,392	\$400,615
Farm capital/cow	\$12,343	\$8,627	\$7,587
Farm capital/cwt. milk	\$71	\$51	\$46
Milk Production Costs & Returns			
Selected costs/cwt.:			
Hired labor	\$0.69	\$0.80	\$2.23
Grain & concentrate	6.31	5.36	6.07
Purchased roughage	0.08	0.57	0.93
Replacements purchased	0.03	0.09	0.04
Veterinary & medicine	0.65	0.41	0.54
Milk marketing	1.33	1.28	1.01
Other dairy expenses	1.35	1.45	0.94
Operating cost of producing milk/cwt.	13.24	14.37	15.17
Owner/operator resources/cwt.	7.26	5.10	3.33
Total labor cost/cwt.	7.13	4.76	3.76
Total cost of producing milk/cwt.	23.80	21.11	20.52
Average farm price/cwt.	19.27	19.59	20.17
Related Cost Factors			
Hired labor/cow	\$118	\$136	\$367
Total labor/cow	1,233	807	618
Purchased dairy feed/cow	1,105	1,005	1,150
Purchased grain & concentrate as % of milk receipts	33%	27%	33%
Veterinary & medicine/cow	\$112	\$70	\$88
Machinery costs/cow	\$794	\$663	\$746
Feed & crop expense/cwt.	\$7.18	\$6.73	\$8.57
Profitability Analysis			
Net farm income (without appreciation)	\$29,418	\$38,793	\$141,564
Net farm income/cow (without appreciation)	\$711	\$650	\$531
Net farm income/cwt. (without appreciation)	\$4.11	\$3.84	\$3.23
Labor & management income/operator	\$-2,533	\$14,739	\$36,114
Labor & management income/operator/cow	\$-62	\$246	\$135
Rates of return on:  Equity capital with appreciation	-1.7%	0.6%	3.8%
All capital with appreciation	-0.8%	1.7%	4.0%
Till Suprair with approcration	0.070	1.//0	7.0/0

### SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF THE FARM BUSINESS

### **Business Characteristics**

Planning the optimal management strategies is a crucial component of operating a successful farm. Various combinations of farm resources, enterprises, business arrangements, and management techniques are used by the grazing dairy farmers in New York. The following table shows important farm business characteristics and the number of farms with each characteristic.

### **BUSINESS CHARACTERISTICS**

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Type of Farm	Number	Milking System	Number
Dairy	31	Bucket & carry	0
Part-time dairy	0	Dumping station	0
Dairy cash-crop	0	Pipeline	16
		Herringbone-conventional exit	6
		Herringbone-rapid exit	2
Type of Ownership	Number	Parallel	1
Owner	30	Parabone	2
Renter	1	Rotary	0
		Other	4
Type of Business	Number		
Sole Proprietorship	20	Production Records	Number
Partnership	5	Testing Service	24
Limited Liability Corporation	5	On-Farm System	2
Subchapter S Corporation	1	Other	0
Subchapter C Corporation	0	None	5
Type of Barn	Number	bST Usage (Optional)	Number
Stanchion or Tie-Stall	16	Used consistently	2
Freestall	11	Used inconsistently	0
Combination	4	Started using in 2008	0
		Stopped using in 2008	0
Milking Frequency	Number	Not used in 2008	9
2 times per day	30	Average percent usage, if used	65%
3 times per day	0		
Other	1	Business Record System	Number
		Account Book	8
Breed	Percent	Accounting Service	3
Holstein	68	On-farm computer software	19
Jersey	12	Other	1
Other	20		

The averages used in this report were compiled using data from all the participating grazing dairy farms in New York unless noted otherwise. There are full-time dairy farms, farm renters, partnerships, and corporations included in the average. Average data for these specific types of farms are presented in the State Business Summary.

### **Income Statement**

In order for an income statement to accurately measure farm income, it must include cash transactions and accrual adjustments (changes in accounts payable, accounts receivable, inventories, and prepaid expenses).

<u>Cash paid</u> is the actual cash outlay during the year and does not necessarily represent the cost of goods and services actually used in 2008.

<u>Change in inventory</u>: Increases in inventories of supplies and other purchased inputs are subtracted in computing accrual expenses because they represent purchased inputs not actually used during the year. Decreases in purchased inventories are added to expenses because they represent inputs purchased in a prior year and used this year.

### CASH AND ACCRUAL FARM EXPENSES

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

		Change in Inventory		Change in Accounts	Accrual
Expense Item	Cash Paid	<ul> <li>or Prepaid Expense</li> </ul>	+	Payable	= Expenses
<u>Hired Labor</u>	\$ 39,312	\$ 184	<<	\$ -207	\$ 38,920
Feed					
Dairy grain & concentrate	115,554	-7,660		3,174	126,388
Dairy roughage	16,267	1,019		1,279	16,527
Nondairy	316	20		0	296
Professional nutritional services	60	0	<<	0	60
<u>Machinery</u>					
Machinery hire, rent & lease	18,113	-968	<<	1,517	20,598
Machinery repairs & farm vehicle exp.	19,211	67		268	19,411
Fuel, oil & grease	20,413	-143		198	20,754
<u>Livestock</u>					
Replacement livestock	1,015	0	<<	0	1,015
Breeding	4,782	106		-2	4,674
Veterinary & medicine	11,206	133		109	11,182
Milk marketing	23,026	0	<<	-90	22,937
Bedding	3,316	-58		227	3,602
Milking supplies	7,737	28		247	7,955
Cattle lease & rent	0	0	<<	0	0
Custom boarding	946	0	<<	-1	945
bST expense	456	28		1	428
Livestock professional fees	1,492	-100	<<	0	1,592
Other livestock expense	3,146	-16		51	3,213
Crops					
Fertilizer & lime	13,170	-6,491		1,304	20,965
Seeds & plants	5,529	959		0	4,571
Spray, other crop expense	2,935	23		0	2,912
Crop professional fees	425	0	<<	-1	424
Real Estate					
Land, building & fence repair	8,999	28		203	9,174
Taxes	7,705	0	<<	180	7,885
Rent & lease	5,952	0	<<	0	5,952
<u>Other</u>	,				,
Insurance	6,375	0	<<	6	6,381
Utilities (farm share)	11,527	-26	<<	-10	11,543
Interest paid	12,911	0	<<	258	13,169
Other professional fees	1,613	0	<<	0	1,613
Miscellaneous	4,127	-7		-129	4,005
Total Operating	\$ 367,636	\$ -12,873		\$ 8,583	\$ 389,091
Expansion livestock	3,264	60	<<	0	3,204
Extraordinary expense	372	0	<<	0	372
Machinery depreciation	3,2	V	• •	· ·	23,644
Building depreciation					12,452
TOTAL ACCRUAL EXPENSES					\$ 428,763

<u>Change in prepaid expenses</u> (noted above by <<) is a net change in non-inventory expenses that have been paid in advance of their use. For example, prepaid lease expense on the beginning of year balance sheet represents last year's payment for use of the asset during this year. End of year prepaid expense represents payments made this year for next year's use of the asset. Adding payments made last year for this year's use of the asset, and subtracting payments made this year for next year's use of the asset is accomplished by subtracting the difference.

<u>Change in accounts payable</u>: An increase in accounts payable from beginning to end of year is added when calculating accrual expenses because these expenses were incurred (resources used) in 2008 but not paid for. A decrease is subtracted because it represents payment for resources used before 2008.

<u>Accrual expenses</u> are an estimate of the costs of inputs actually used in this year's production. They are the cash paid, less changes in inventory and prepaid expenses, plus accounts payable.

### CASH AND ACCRUAL FARM RECEIPTS

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Receipt Item	Cash Receipts	+	Change in Inventory	+	Change in Accounts Receivable	=	Accrual Receipts
Milk sales	\$ 427,025				\$ -5,106	9	421,919
Dairy cattle	26,878		\$ 12,768		-45		39,601
Dairy calves	2,793		434		0		3,226
Other livestock	1,554		5,528		0		7,081
Crops	728		16,743		26		17,497
Government receipts	4,782		0		183		4,965
Custom machine work	2,137				0		2,137
Gas tax refund	310				0		310
Other	4,172				90		4,262
Less nonfarm noncash capital <sup>8</sup>	·	(-)	0			(-)	0
Total Receipts	\$ 470,378		\$ 35,472		\$ -4,852	\$	500,999

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Change in advanced government receipts.

<u>Cash receipts</u> include the gross value of milk checks received during the year plus all other payments received from the sale of farm products, services, and government programs. Nonfarm income is not included in calculating farm profitability.

<u>Changes in inventory</u> of assets produced by the business are calculated by subtracting beginning of year values from end of year values <u>excluding appreciation</u>. Increases in livestock inventory caused by herd growth and/or quality are added, and decreases caused by herd reduction and/or quality are subtracted. Changes in inventories of crops grown are also included. An increase in advanced government receipts is subtracted from cash income because it represents income received in 2008 for the 2009 crop year in excess of funds earned for 2008. Likewise, a decrease is added to cash government receipts because it represents funds earned for 2008 but received in 2007.

<u>Changes in accounts receivable</u> are calculated by subtracting beginning year balances from end year balances. Payments in January for milk produced in December 2008 compared to January 2008 payments for milk produced in 2007 are included as a change in accounts receivable.

<u>Accrual receipts</u> represent the value of all farm commodities produced and services actually generated by the farm business during the year.

### **Profitability Analysis**

Farm operators<sup>9</sup> contribute labor, management, and equity capital to their businesses and the combination of these resources, and the other resources used in the business, determines profitability. Farm profitability can be measured as the return to all family resources or as the return to one or more individual resources such as labor and management.

These measures should be considered estimates as they include inventory values that are only estimates and they include an unknown degree of error stemming from cash flow imbalances.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Gifts or inheritances of cattle or crops included in inventory.

Operators are the individuals who are integrally involved in the operation and management of the farm business. They are not limited to those who are the owner of a sole proprietorship or are formally a member of the partnership or corporation.

<u>Net farm income</u> is the return to the farm operators and other unpaid family members for their labor, management, and equity capital. It is the farm family's net annual return from working, managing, and financing the farm business. This is not a measure of cash available from the year's business operation. Cash flow is evaluated later in this report.

Net farm income is computed both with and without appreciation. Appreciation represents the change in values caused by annual changes in prices of livestock, machinery, real estate inventory, and stocks and certificates (other than Farm Credit). Appreciation is a major factor contributing to changes in farm net worth and must be included for a complete profitability analysis.

**NET FARM INCOME**Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

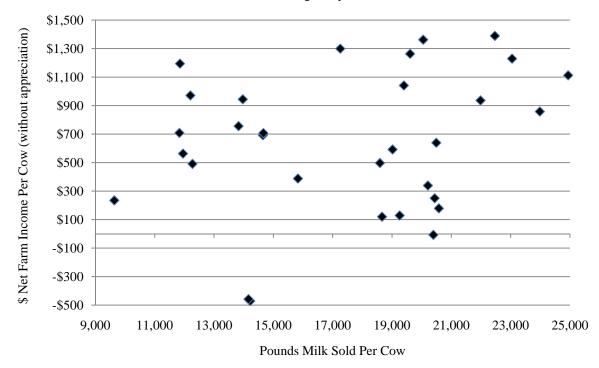
Item	31 Grazing Dairy Farms <sup>10</sup>	Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>10</sup>
Total accrual receipts	\$ 500,999	\$ 598,753
Appreciation: Livestock	-13,763	-7,005
Machinery	8,337	7,549
Real Estate	10,976	8,068
Other Stock & Certificates	-5,647	1,072
Total Including Appreciation	\$ 500,900	\$ 608,437
Total accrual expenses	- 428,763	- 539,689
Net Farm Income (with appreciation)	\$ 72,137	\$ 68,748
Net Farm Income Per Cow (with appreciation)	\$ 567	\$ 537
Net Farm Income (without appreciation)	\$ 72,236	\$ 59,064
Net Farm Income Per Cow (without appreciation)	\$ 568	\$ 461

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

The chart below shows the relationship between net farm income per cow (without appreciation) and pounds of milk sold per cow. Higher new farm incomes can be achieved across a range of production levels as a result of different management systems, such as grazing, being utilized by the participating dairies.

### NET FARM INCOME PER COW AND MILK PER COW

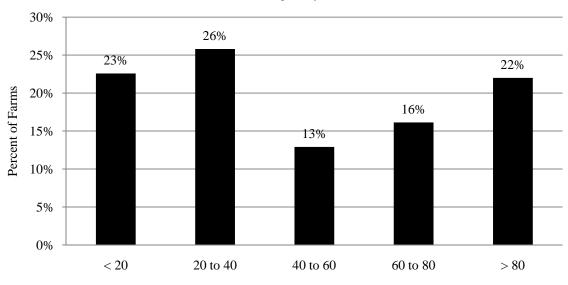
31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008



<u>Net farm income without appreciation</u> averaged \$72,236 on these 31 farms in 2008. The range in net farm income without appreciation was from less than \$-70,000 to more than \$601,000. Net farm income was less than \$40,000 on 49 percent of the farms, between \$40,000 and \$80,000 on 29 percent of the farms, while 22 percent had net farm incomes of \$80,000 or more.

### DISTRIBUTION OF NET FARM INCOME WITHOUT APPRECIATION

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

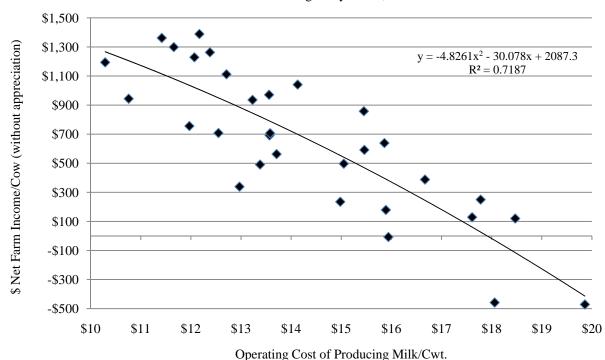


Net Farm Income Without Appreciaton (thousand dollars)

The importance of cost control and its impact on farm profitability are illustrated in the chart below. As the operating cost of producing milk per hundredweight increased, net farm income per cow fell.

# NET FARM INCOME/COW & OPERATING COST OF PRODUCING MILK/CWT.

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008



<u>Labor and management income</u> is the return which farm operators receive for their labor and management used in the farm business. Appreciation is not included as part of the return to labor and management because it results from ownership of assets rather than management of the farm business. Labor and management income is calculated by deducting a charge for family labor unpaid and the opportunity cost of using equity capital, at a real interest rate of five percent, from net farm income excluding appreciation. The interest charge of five percent reflects the long-term average rate of return above inflation that a farmer might expect to earn in comparable risk investments.

LABOR AND MANAGEMENT INCOME
Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

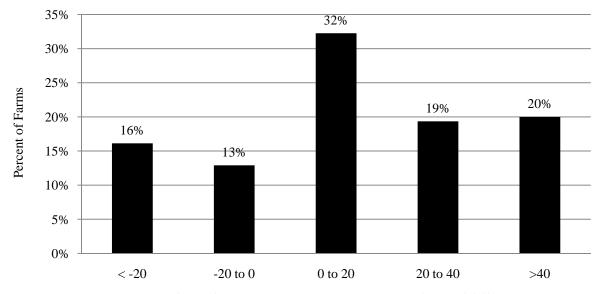
Item	31 Grazing Dairy Farms <sup>11</sup>	Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>11</sup>
Net farm income without appreciation	\$ 72,236	\$ 59,064
Family labor unpaid @ \$2,500 per month	- 7,911	- 6,491
Interest on average equity capital @ 5% real rate	<u>- 37,613</u>	<u>- 47,947</u>
Labor & Management Income per Farm	\$ 26,711	\$ 4,626
Labor & Management Income per Operator/Manager	\$ 19,786	\$ 3,147
Labor & Management Income per Operator per Cow	\$ 156	\$ 25

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

<u>Labor and management income per operator</u> averaged \$72,236 on these 31 farms in 2008. The range in labor and management income per operator was from less than \$-85,600 to more than \$218,000. Returns to labor and management were less than \$0 on 29 percent of the farms. Labor and management incomes per operator were between \$0 and \$20,000 on 32 percent of the farms while 39 percent showed labor and management incomes of \$20,000 or more per operator.

### DISTRIBUTION OF LABOR & MANAGEMENT INCOMES PER OPERATOR

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008



Labor and Management Incomes Per Operator (thousand dollars)

The distribution of labor and management incomes per operator on grazing farms is somewhat similar to the distribution for all farms across the State that participate in the DFBS project. A considerable percentage of farms have labor and management incomes per operator less than zero. One comparison to make to the state distribution is the percentage of farms that were above zero labor and management income per operator. For the intensive grazing farms, 71 percent of the farms had returns that were over zero, while for 206 farms across the State, 61 percent had returns greater than zero in 2008.

Return on equity capital measures the net return remaining for the farmer's equity or owned capital after a charge has been made for the owner-operator's labor and management. The earnings or amount of net farm income allocated to labor and management is the opportunity cost of operators' labor and management estimated by the cooperators. Return on equity capital is calculated with and without appreciation. The rate of return on equity capital is determined by dividing the amount returned by the average farm net worth or equity capital. Return on total capital is calculated by adding interest paid to the return on equity capital and then dividing by average farm assets to calculate the rate of return on total capital. Net farm income from operations ratio is net farm income (without appreciation) divided by total accrual receipts.

### RETURN ON EQUITY CAPITAL AND RETURN ON TOTAL CAPITAL

Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Item		31 Grazing Dairy Farms <sup>12</sup>	Ave	rage Non-Grazing Farms <sup>12</sup>
Net farm income with appreciation	\$	72,137	\$	68,748
Family labor unpaid @ \$2,500 per month	-	7,911	-	6,491
Value of operators' labor & management	<u>-</u>	47,495		51,991
Return on equity capital with appreciation	\$	16,731	\$	10,266
Interest paid	<u>+</u>	13,169	<u>+</u>	15,293
Return on total capital with appreciation	\$	29,900	\$	25,559
Return on equity capital without appreciation	\$	16,830	\$	582
Return on total capital without appreciation	\$	29,999	\$	15,875
Rate of return on average equity capital:				
with appreciation		2.2%		1.1%
without appreciation		2.2%		0.1%
Rate of return on average total capital:				
with appreciation		2.9%		2.0%
without appreciation		2.9%		1.2%
Net farm income from operations ratio		0.14		0.10

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

### **Farm and Family Financial Status**

The first step in evaluating the financial position of the farm is to construct a balance sheet which identifies and values all the assets and liabilities of the business. The second step is to evaluate the relationship between assets, liabilities, and net worth and changes that occurred during the year.

<u>Financial lease</u> obligations are included in the balance sheet. The present value of all future payments is listed as a liability since the farmer is committed to make the payments by signing the lease. The present value is also listed as an asset, representing the future value the item has to the business. For 2008, lease payments were discounted by 8.15 percent to obtain their present value.

Advanced government receipts are included as current liabilities. Government payments received in 2008 that are for participation in the 2009 program are the end year balance and payments received in 2007 for participation in the 2008 program are the beginning year balance.

Current Portion or principal due in the next year for intermediate and long term debt is included as a current liability.

### 2008 FARM BUSINESS & NONFARM BALANCE SHEET

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Farm Assiti	Τ 1	D 21	Farm Liabilities	T 1	D 21
Farm Assets	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	& Net Worth	Jan. 1	Dec. 31
Current			Current		
Farm cash, checking	\$ 12,352	\$ 9,020	Accounts payable	\$ 11,827	\$ 20,410
& savings	ψ 1 <b>2</b> ,882	· >,020	Operating debt	24,750	15,668
Accounts receivable	34,809	29,957	Short Term	606	847
Prepaid expenses	1,348	499	Advanced govt. receipts	0	0
Feed & supplies	79,338	<u>84,118</u>	Current Portion:	O	O
теса се варриев		01,110	Intermediate	10,949	28,447
			Long Term	5,393	8,104
Total Current	\$ 127,847	\$ 123,594	Total Current	\$ 53,526	\$ 73,477
Intermediate			Intermediate		
Dairy cows:			Structured debt		
owned	\$ 174,006	\$ 172,921	1-10 years	\$ 79,120	\$ 90,610
leased	0	0	Financial lease	+,	+ / / / / / /
Heifers	102,866	103,503	(cattle/machinery)	547	385
Bulls & other livestock	4,494	9,908	Farm Credit stock	892	812
Mach. & equip. owned	179,994	201,680	Total Intermediate	\$ 80,560	\$ 91,807
Mach. & equip. leased	547	385		¥ 00,000	Ψ >1,007
Farm Credit stock	892	812			
Other stock/certificate	19,564	14,214			
Total Intermediate	\$ 482,365	\$ 503,422			
Total Intermediate	Ψ 102,303	Ψ 303,122	Long Term		
Long Term			Structured debt		
Land & buildings:			>10 years	\$ 148,079	\$ 145,717
owned	\$ 411,404	\$ 449,067	Financial lease	+ - 10,012	+
leased	0	0	(structures)	0	0
Total Long Term	\$ 411,404	\$ 449,067	Total Long Term	\$ 148,079	\$ 145,717
	, , ,	, , , , , , ,		, ,,,,,,,	, -,-
			Total Farm Liab.	\$ 282,165	\$ 311,001
Total Farm Assets	\$1,021,616	\$1,076,083	FARM NET WORTH	\$ 739,451	\$ 765,083
Nonfarm Assets, Liabilitie	es & Net Worth	(Average of 11 far	rms reporting)		
Assets	Jan. 1	Dec. 31	Liabilities & Net Worth	Jan. 1	Dec. 31
Personal cash, checking			Nonfarm Liabilities	\$ 323	\$ 2,045
& savings	\$ 31,850	\$ 21,707			
Cash value life insurance	12,864	16,311			
Nonfarm real estate	17,727	17,727			
Auto (personal share)	9,382	10,836			
Stocks & bonds	63,845	44,459			
Household furnishings	14,091	13,636			
All other nonfarm assets	1,273	545			
Total Nonfarm Assets	\$ 151,031	\$ 125,222	NONFARM NET WORTH	\$ 150,709	\$ 123,177
Farm & Nonfarm Assets, l	Liabilities, and	Net Worth <sup>13</sup>		Jan. 1	Dec. 31
·				\$1,172,647	\$1,201,305
Total Agasta				DL.172.047	D1.201.305
Total Assets					
Total Assets Total Liabilities TOTAL FARM & NONFA		DTH		282,488 \$ 890,159	313,046 \$ 888,259

Balance sheet analysis involves examination of relative asset and debt levels for the business. Percent equity is calculated by dividing end of year net worth by end of year assets and multiplying by 100. The debt to asset ratio is compiled by dividing liabilities by assets. Low debt to asset ratios reflect business solvency and the potential capacity to borrow. The leverage ratio is the dollars of debt per dollar of equity, computed by dividing total farm liabilities by farm net worth. Debt levels per productive unit represent old standards that are still useful if used with measures of cash flow and repayment ability. A current ratio that has been falling or is less than 1.5 warrants additional evaluation. An adequate amount of working capital will be related to the size of the farm business.

**BALANCE SHEET ANALYSIS**Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

	31 Grazing		
Item	Dairy Farms <sup>14</sup>	<sup>4</sup> Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>14</sup>	4
Financial Ratios - Farm:			
Percent equity	71%	74%	
Debt/asset ratio: total	0.29	0.26	
long-term	0.32	0.25	
intermediate/current	0.26	0.28	
Leverage Ratio	0.41	0.36	
Current Ratio	1.68	1.98	
Working Capital: \$50,117; As %	of Expenses 12%	(\$87,213) 16%	
Farm Debt Analysis:			
Accounts payable as % of total debt	7%	7%	
Long-term liabilities as a % of total debt	47%	40%	
Current & inter. liabilities as a % of total debt	53%	60%	
Cost of term debt (weighted average)	4.6%	5.9%	
	31 Grazing		
	Dairy Farms <sup>14</sup>	<sup>4</sup> Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>14</sup>	4
	I	Per Per	
	Til	llable Tillable	
	A	Acre Acre	
Farm Debt Levels:	Per Cow Ov	wned Per Cow Owned	
Total farm debt	\$ 2,531 \$ 1,5	980 \$ 2,679 \$ 2,189	
Long-term debt	1,186	928 1,058 865	
Intermediate & long term	1,933 1,	512 1,996 1,631	
Intermediate & current debt	1,345 1,	1,620 1,324	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

<u>Farm inventory balance</u> is an accounting of the value of assets used on the balance sheet and the changes that occur from the beginning to end of year. Changes in the livestock inventory are included in the dairy analysis. Net investment indicates whether the capital stock is being expanded (positive) or depleted (negative).

### FARM INVENTORY BALANCE

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Item	Real Estate	Machinery & Equipment
Value beginning of year	\$ 411,404	\$ 179,994
Purchases	\$ 51,383 <sup>15</sup>	\$ 37,507
Gift & inheritance	+ 0	+ 0
Lost capital	- 12,243	
Sales	- 0	- 515
Depreciation	<u>- 12,452</u>	<u>- 23,644</u>
Net investment	= 26,688	= 13,349
Appreciation	<u>+ 10,976</u>	+ 8,337
Value end of year	\$ 449,067	\$ 201,680

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>\$22,195 land and \$29,187 building and/or depreciable improvements.

The Statement of Owner Equity has two purposes. It allows (1) verification that the accrual income statement and market value balance sheet are consistent (in accountants terms, they reconcile) and (2) identification of the causes of change in equity that occurred on the farm during the year. The Statement of Owner Equity allows you to determine to what degree the change in equity was caused by (1) earnings from the business, and nonfarm income, in excess of withdrawals being retained in the business (called retained earnings), (2) outside capital being invested in the business or farm capital being removed from the business (called contributed/withdrawn capital), (3) increases or decreases in the value (price) of assets owned by the business (called change in valuation equity), and (4) the error in the business cash flow accounting.

Retained earnings is an excellent indicator of farm generated financial progress.

### STATEMENT OF OWNER EQUITY (RECONCILIATION)

Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Item	31 Grazing Dairy Farms <sup>16</sup>	Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>16</sup>
Beginning of year farm net worth	\$ 739,451	\$ 950,917
Net farm income w/o appreciation +Nonfarm cash income -Personal withdrawals & family expenditures excluding	\$ 72,236 + 4,934	\$ 59,064 + 6,814
nonfarm borrowings RETAINED EARNINGS	<u>- 45,935</u> +\$ 31,234	<u>- 53,909</u> +\$ 11,968
Nonfarm noncash transfers to farm +Cash used in business	\$ 0	\$ 0
from nonfarm capital -Note or mortgage from farm	+ 5,850	+ 7,427
real estate sold (nonfarm) CONTRIBUTED/	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
WITHDRAWN CAPITAL	+\$ 5,850	+\$ 7,427
Appreciation -Lost capital CHANGE IN VALUATION	\$ -99 - 12,243	\$ 9,684 <u>- 14,761</u>
EQUITY IMBALANCE/ERROR	+\$ -12,342 889	+\$ -5,077 1,742
End of year net worth <sup>17</sup>	=\$765,083	=\$ 966,978
Change in Net Worth		
Without appreciation With appreciation	\$ 25,730 \$ 25,632	\$ 6,377 \$ 16,061

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup>May not add due to rounding.

### **Cash Flow Statement**

Completing an annual cash flow statement is an important step in understanding the sources and uses of funds for the business. Understanding last year's cash flow is the first step toward planning and managing cash flow for the current and future years.

The <u>annual cash flow statement</u> is structured to show net cash provided by operating activities, investing activities, financing activities and from reserves. All cash inflows and outflows, including beginning and end balances, are included. Therefore, the sum of net cash provided from all four activities should be zero. Any imbalance is the error from incorrect accounting of cash inflows/outflows. You should be aware that all profitability measures may be affected by this error.

### ANNUAL CASH FLOW STATEMENT

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Item	Average					
Cash Flow from Operating Activities						
Cash farm receipts	\$ 470,378					
- Cash farm expenses	367,636					
- Extraordinary expense	372					
= Net cash farm income		\$ 102,370				
Personal withdrawals & family expenses						
including nonfarm debt payments	\$ 47,773					
- Nonfarm income	4,934					
<ul> <li>Net cash withdrawals from the farm</li> </ul>		<u>\$ 42,839</u>				
Net Provided by Operating Activities			\$ 59,531			
Cash Flow From Investing Activities						
Sale of assets: machinery	\$ 515					
+ real estate	0					
+ other stock & cert.	<u>971</u>					
= Total asset sales		\$ 1,485				
Capital purchases: expansion livestock	\$ 3,264					
+ machinery	37,507					
+ real estate	51,383					
+ other stock& cert.	1,267					
- Total invested in farm assets	·	\$ 93,421				
<ul> <li>Net Provided by Investment Activities</li> </ul>			\$ -91,936			
Cash Flow From Financing Activities						
Money borrowed (intermediate & long term)	\$ 60,478					
+ Money borrowed (short term)	1,485					
+ Increase in operating debt	0					
+ Cash from nonfarm capital used in business	5,850					
+ Money borrowed - nonfarm	1,838					
= Cash inflow from financing	1,030	\$ 69,651				
- Cash lillow from mancing		Φ 02,031				
Principal payments (intermediate & long term)	\$ 31,141					
+ Principal payments (short term)	1,244					
+ Decrease in operating debt	9,082					
- Cash outflow for financing	·	\$ 41,467				
<ul> <li>Net Provided by Financing Activities</li> </ul>		<del> </del>	\$ 28,184			
Cash Flow From Reserves						
Beginning farm cash, checking & savings		\$ 12,352				
- Ending farm cash, checking & savings		9,020				
= Net Provided from Reserves			\$ 3,332			
1.00 110 Hadd Holl Robot 100			ψ 5,55 <u>2</u>			
Imbalance (error)			\$ -889			

### **Repayment Analysis**

A valuable use of cash flow analysis is to compare the debt payments planned for the last year with the amount actually paid. The measures listed below provide a number of different perspectives on the repayment performance of the business. However, the critical question to many farmers and lenders is whether planned payments can be made in 2009. The cash flow projection worksheet on the next page can be used to estimate repayment ability, which can then be compared to planned 2009 debt payments shown below.

**FARM DEBT PAYMENTS PLANNED**Same Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2007 & 2008

		Same	e 30 C	razing Dai	iry Fai	ms		Same 8	38 No	n-Grazing l	Dairy I	Farms
	2008 Payments Planned			2008 Payments		ents	Planned					
Debt Payments		Planned		Made		2009		Planned		Made		2009
Long term	\$	17,736	\$	16,026	\$	15,066	\$	19,102	\$	17,862	\$	20,578
Intermediate term		22,177		25,651		33,577		33,900		42,460		38,104
Short term		377		1,357		330		2,043		4,840		3,400
Operating (net												
reduction)		5,933		14,351		167		2,682		3,682		595
Accounts payable												
(net reduction)		110		480		111		188		256		0
Total	\$	46,333	\$	57,864	\$	49,251	\$	57,916	\$	69,100	\$	62,677
Per cow	\$	360	\$	450			\$	440	\$	525		
Per cwt. 2008 milk	\$	2.18	\$	2.72			\$	2.08	\$	2.49		
Percent of total	Ψ	2.10	Ψ	2.12			Ψ	2.00	Ψ	2.47		
2008 farm receipts		10%		11%				10%		11%		
Percent of 2008		1070		11/0				1070		1170		
milk receipts		11%		14%				11%		13%		
		1170		1170				1170		1370		

The <u>coverage ratios</u> measure the ability of the farm business to meet its planned debt payment schedule. The ratios show the percentage of payments planned for 2008 (as of December 31, 2007) that could have been made with the amount available for debt service in 2008. Farmers who did not participate in DFBS in 2007 have their 2008 coverage ratios based on planned debt payments for 2009.

## COVERAGE RATIOS Same Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms 2007 & 2008

Item	Average Item	Average
Same	0 Grazing Dairy Farms, 2007 & 2008	
(A)=Amount Available for Debt Service	\$ 75,314 (A')=Repayment Capacity	\$ 83,336
(B)=Debt Payments Planned for 2008	\$ 46,333 (B)=Debt Payments Planned f	for 2008 \$ 46,333
(A/B)=Cash Flow Coverage Ratio for 2008	1.63 (A'/B)=Debt Coverage Ratio	for 2008 1.80
Same 88 Fa (A)=Amount Available for Debt Service	ns Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2007 & 2008 \$ 68,071	\$ 63,434 for 2008 \$ 57.916

### ANNUAL CASH FLOW WORKSHEET

Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

THE HOLD TO	31 Grazing 1		Average Non-C	Grazing Farms		
Item	Per Cow	Per Cwt.	Per Cow	Per Cwt.		
Average no. of cows	127		128			
Total cwt. of milk sold		21,111		27,072		
Accrual Operating Receipts						
Milk	\$3,316	\$19.99	\$4,074	\$19.28		
Dairy cattle	311	1.88	225	1.06		
Dairy calves	25	0.15	31	0.15		
Other livestock	56	0.34	14	0.07		
Crops	138	0.83	206	0.98		
Misc. Receipts	<u>92</u>	0.55	<u>125</u>	0.59		
Total	\$3,938	\$23.73	\$4,674	\$22.12		
Accrual Operating Expenses						
Hired labor	\$ 306	\$ 1.84	\$ 434	\$ 2.05		
Dairy grain & concentrate	993	5.99	1,265	5.98		
Dairy roughage	130	0.78	90	0.42		
Nondairy feed	2	0.01	0	0.00		
Professional nutritional services	0	0.00	1	0.01		
Mach. hire, rent & lease	162	0.98	119	0.56		
Mach. repair & vehicle expense	153	0.92	225	1.06		
Fuel, oil & grease	163	0.98	218	1.03		
Replacement livestock	8	0.05	22	0.10		
Breeding	37	0.22	58	0.27		
Vet & medicine	88	0.53	124	0.59		
Milk marketing	180	1.09	208	0.98		
Bedding	28	0.17	68	0.32		
Milking supplies	63	0.38	89	0.42		
Cattle lease	0	0.00	3	0.02		
Custom boarding	7	0.04	53	0.25		
bST expense	3	0.02	34	0.16		
Livestock professional fees	13	0.08	12	0.06		
Other livestock expense	25	0.15	43	0.20		
Fertilizer & lime	165	0.99	144	0.68		
Seeds & plants	36	0.22	69	0.33		
Spray & other crop expense	23	0.14	55	0.26		
Crop professional fees	3	0.02	6	0.03		
Land, bldg., fence repair	72	0.43	65	0.31		
Taxes	62	0.37	66	0.31		
Real estate rent & lease	47	0.28	66	0.31		
Insurance	50	0.30	48	0.23		
Utilities	91	0.55	120	0.57		
Miscellaneous	44	0.27	50	0.24		
Total Less Interest Paid	\$2,955	\$17.81	\$3,756	\$17.77		
Net Accrual Operating Income	<u>To</u>	<u>tal</u>	Tot	<u>al</u>		
(without interest paid)	\$125,	077	\$117,	593		
- Change in livestock & crop invent. 18	35,	472	30,3	346		
- Change in accounts receivable	-4,852		-10,429			
- Change in feed & supply inventory <sup>19</sup>	-12,			995		
+ Change in accounts payable <sup>20</sup>		<u>8,325</u>		<u>113</u>		
NET CASH FLOW	\$115,654		\$114,784			
- Net family withdrawals	40,253		45,722			
Available for Farm	\$ 75,400		\$ 69,061			
- Farm debt payments	<u>58,446</u>		67,886			
Available for Farm Investment	\$ 16,	954	\$ 1,	175		
- Capital purchases	_93,			100,430		
Additional Capital Needed	\$ 76,	467	\$ 99,255			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>Includes change in advance government receipts. <sup>19</sup>Includes change in prepaid expenses. <sup>20</sup>Excludes change in interest account payable.

### **Cropping Analysis**

The cropping program is an important part of the dairy farm business and often represents opportunities for improved productivity and profitability. A complete evaluation of what the available land resources are, how they are being used, how well crops are producing, and what it costs to produce them is important to evaluating alternative cropping and feed purchasing alternatives.

LAND RESOURCES AND CROP PRODUCTION

Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Item	31 Grazing Dairy Farms <sup>22</sup>			31 Grazing Dairy Farms <sup>22</sup> Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>22</sup>		
Land	Owned	Rented	<u>Total</u>	Owned	Rented	<u>Total</u>
Tillable	157	159	316	159	190	349
Nontillable	40	22	62	39	20	59
Other nontill.	113	8	<u>121</u>	78	10	88
Total	310	189	499	276	220	496
Crop Yields	Farms	Acres <sup>21</sup>	Prod/Acre	Farms	Acres <sup>21</sup>	Prod/Acre
Hay crop	31	176	2.3 tn DM	96	210	$\overline{2.7}$ tn DM
Corn silage	22	67	16.9 tn	91	99	18.3 tn
· ·			5.7 tn DM			6.2 tn DM
Other forage	0	0	0.0 tn DM	9	26	1.6 tn DM
Total forage	31	224	3.0 tn DM	96	307	3.8 tn DM
Corn grain	4	51	117 bu	41	93	140 bu
Oats	3	14	68 bu	7	28	58 bu
Wheat	0	0	0 bu	5	43	71 bu
Other crops	6	52		22	63	
Tillable pasture	18	127		9	25	
Idle	4	32		11	102	
Total Tillable Acres	31	316		104	349	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup>This column represents the average acreage for the farms producing that crop. For the 31 intensive grazing dairy farms, average acreages including those farms not producing were hay crop 176, corn silage 47, corn grain 7, oats 1, wheat 0, tillable pasture 74, and idle 4.

Average crop acres and yields compiled for the grazing farms are for the farms reporting each crop. Yields of forage crops have been converted to tons of dry matter using dry matter coefficients reported by the farmers. Grain production has been converted to bushels of dry grain equivalent based on dry matter information provided.

The following crop/dairy ratios indicate the relationship between forage production, forage production resources, and the dairy herd.

**CROP/DAIRY RATIOS**Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Item	31 Grazing Dairy Farms <sup>22</sup>	Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>22</sup>
Total tillable acres per cow	2.49	2.87
Total forage acres per cow	1.76	2.37
Harvested forage dry matter, tons per cow	5.35	9.04

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

### **Cropping Analysis** (continued)

Crop input costs per tillable acre are reported in the table below. The chart below shows the relationship between total forage dry matter per acre and total crop input costs.

### CROP RELATED ACCRUAL EXPENSES

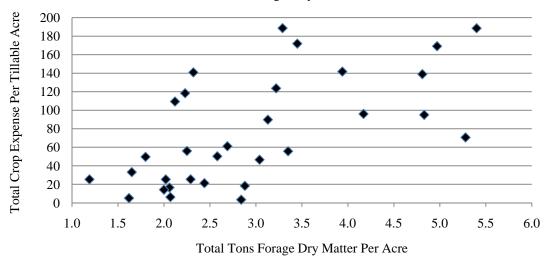
Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms That Grow Forages, 2008

	31 Grazing Dairy Farms <sup>23</sup>	Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>23</sup>
Item	Total Per	Tillable Acre
Number of farms reporting	31	96
Average number of acres	317	373
Fertilizer & lime expense	\$ 51.65	\$ 45.89
Seeds & plants	15.16	22.47
Spray & other crop expenses	9.22	19.84
TOTAL	\$ 76.03	\$ 88.20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

# CROP EXPENSE PER ACRE AND TOTAL FORAGE PRODUCTION PER ACRE

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008



Most machinery costs are associated with crop production and should be analyzed with the crop enterprise. Total machinery expenses include the major fixed costs (interest and depreciation), as well as the accrual operating costs. Although machinery costs have not been allocated to individual crops, they are shown below per total tillable acre.

### ACCRUAL MACHINERY EXPENSES

Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms That Grow Forages, 2008

	31 Grazing l	Dairy Farms <sup>24</sup>	Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>2</sup>		
Machinery	Total	Per Tillable	Total	Per Tillable	
Expense	Expenses	Acre	Expenses	Acre	
Fuel, oil & grease	\$ 20,754	\$ 65.56	\$ 29,291	\$ 78.50	
Mach. repair & vehicle exp.	19,411	61.32	30,133	80.76	
Machine hire, rent & lease	20,598	65.07	15,415	41.31	
Interest (5%)	9,565	30.22	12,707	34.06	
Depreciation	<u>23,644</u>	74.69	25,401	68.08	
Total	\$ 93,972	\$296.86	\$112,947	\$302.71	

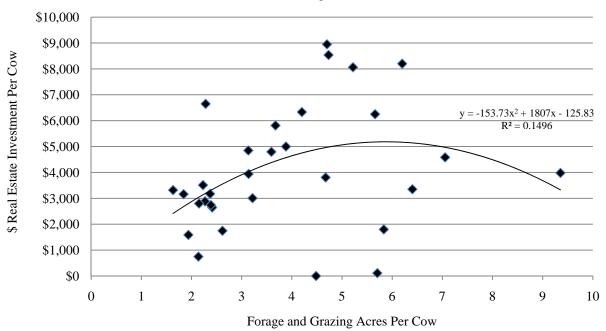
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

### **Cropping Analysis** (continued)

The charts below show the relationship between the stocking rate (forage and grazing acres per cow) and labor and management income per operator per cow and real estate investment per cow. Stocking rate is total tillable acres plus nontillable pasture acres less corn grain acres, all divided by the average number of cows.

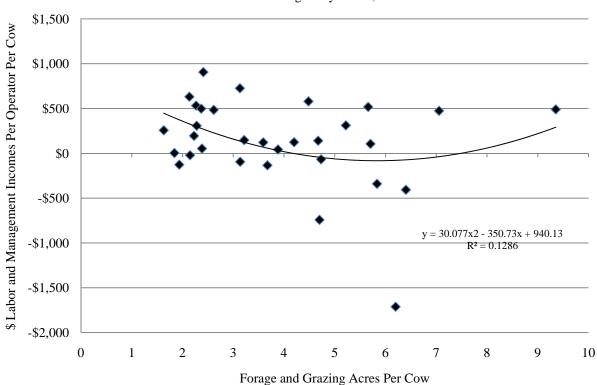
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT/COW & FORAGE AND GRAZING ACRES/COW

31 Intensive Grazing Farms, 2008



# LABOR AND MANAGEMENT INCOMES/OPERATOR/COW & FORAGE AND GRAZING ACRES/COW

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008



#### **Dairy Analysis**

Analysis of the dairy enterprise can reveal strengths and weaknesses of the dairy farm business. Information on this page should be used in conjunction with DHI and other dairy production information. Changes in dairy herd size and market values that occur during the year are identified in the table below. The change in inventory value without appreciation is attributed to physical changes in herd size and quality. Any change in inventory is included as an accrual farm receipt when calculating all of the profitability measures on pages 19 through 22.

**DAIRY HERD INVENTORY**Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

	Da	airy Cows	Bro	ed Heifers	Ope	en Heifers	(	Calves
Item	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value
31 Grazing Dairy Farm	<u>s</u> <sup>25</sup>							
Beg. year (owned)	118	\$ 174,006	37	\$ 53,798	33	\$ 29,142	26	\$ 19,926
+ Change w/o apprec.		7,947		2,660		2,161		434
+ Appreciation		-9,032		-2,211		-1,464		-942
End year (owned)	123	\$ 172,921	39	\$ 54,247	36	\$ 29,839	27	\$ 19,418
End including leased	123							
Average number	127		97	(all age groups)				
Average Non-Grazing l	Farms <sup>25</sup>							
Beg. year (owned)	125	\$ 193,727	35	\$ 54,504	37	\$ 37,538	30	\$ 18,477
+ Change w/o apprec.		4,581		1,939		2,059		1,060
+ Appreciation		-3,438		-1,084		-1,420		-1,054
End year (owned)	129	\$ 194,871	37	\$ 55,359	40	\$ 38,177	32	\$ 18,484
End including leased	130							
Average number	128		105	(all age groups)				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

Total milk sold and milk sold per cow are extremely valuable measures of size and productivity, respectively, on the dairy farm. These measures of milk output are based on pounds of milk marketed during the year.

MILK PRODUCTION
Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Item	31 Grazing Dairy Farms <sup>26</sup>	Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>26</sup>
Total milk sold, pounds	2,111,138	2,707,218
Milk sold per cow, pounds	16,593	21,134
Average milk plant test, percent butterfat	3.93%	3.76%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

Monitoring and evaluating culling practices and experiences on an annual basis are important herd management tools. Culling rate can have an effect on both milk per cow and profitability.

ANIMALS LEAVING THE HERD
Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

	31 Grazing	Dairy Farms	Average Non-Grazing Farms		
Item	Number	Percent <sup>27</sup>	Number	Percent <sup>27</sup>	
Cows sold for beef	22	17.4	32	25.2	
Cows sold for dairy	9	6.9	2	1.2	
Cows died	6	4.9	8	6.5	
Culling rate <sup>28</sup>		22.0		32.0	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup>Percent of average number of cows in the herd. <sup>28</sup>Cows sold for beef plus cows died.

The cost of producing milk has been compiled using the whole farm method and is featured in the following table. Accrual receipts from milk sales can be compared with the accrual costs of producing milk per cow and per hundredweight of milk. Using the whole farm method, operating costs of producing milk are estimated by deducting nonmilk accrual receipts from total accrual operating expenses including expansion livestock purchased. Purchased inputs cost of producing milk are the operating costs plus depreciation. Total costs of producing milk include the operating costs of producing milk plus depreciation on machinery and buildings, the value of unpaid family labor, the value of operators' labor and management, and the interest charge for using equity capital.

## ACCRUAL RECEIPTS FROM DAIRY, COSTS OF PRODUCING MILK, AND PROFITABILITY

Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

	31 Grazing I	Dairy Farms <sup>29</sup>	Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>29</sup>		
Item	Per Cow	Per Cwt.	Per Cow	Per Cwt.	
Accrual Cost of Producing Milk					
Operating costs	\$ 2,462	\$ 14.84	\$ 3,327	\$ 15.74	
Purchased inputs costs	\$ 2,748	\$ 16.56	\$ 3,613	\$ 17.09	
Total Costs	\$ 3,480	\$ 20.97	\$ 4,443	\$ 21.03	
Accrual Receipts From Milk	\$ 3,316	\$ 19.99	\$ 4,074	\$ 19.28	
Net milk receipts	\$ 3,213	\$ 18.90	\$ 3,697	\$ 18.29	
Net Farm Income					
without Appreciation	\$ 568	\$ 3.42	\$ 461	\$ 2.18	
Net Farm Income					
with Appreciation	\$ 567	\$ 3.42	\$ 537	\$ 2.54	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

The accrual operating expenses most commonly associated with the dairy enterprise are listed in the table below. Evaluating these costs per unit of production enables an evaluation of the dairy enterprise.

# **DAIRY RELATED ACCRUAL EXPENSES**Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

	31 Grazing D	airy Farms <sup>29</sup>	Average Non-O	Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>29</sup>		
Item	Per Cow	Per Cwt.	Per Cow	Per Cwt.		
Purchased dairy grain						
& concentrate	\$ 993	\$ 5.99	\$ 1,265	\$ 5.98		
Purchased dairy roughage	130	0.78	90	0.42		
Total Purchased						
Dairy Feed	\$ 1,123	\$ 6.77	\$ 1,355	\$ 6.41		
Purchased grain & concentrate						
as % of milk receipts	31	%	32	2%		
Purchased feed & crop expense	\$ 1,350	\$ 8.14	\$ 1,629	\$ 7.71		
Purchased feed & crop expense						
as % of milk receipts	39	%	41	1%		
Breeding	\$ 37	\$ 0.22	\$ 58	\$ 0.27		
Veterinary & medicine	88	0.53	124	0.59		
Milk marketing	180	1.09	208	0.98		
Bedding	28	0.17	68	0.32		
Milking supplies	63	0.38	89	0.42		
Cattle lease	0	0.00	3	0.02		
Custom boarding	7	0.04	53	0.25		
bST expense	3	0.02	35	0.16		
Livestock professional fees	13	0.08	12	0.06		
Other livestock expense	25	0.15	43	0.20		

### **Capital and Labor Efficiency Analysis**

Capital efficiency factors measure how intensively the capital is being used in the farm business. Measures of labor efficiency are key indicators of management's success in generating products per unit of labor input.

**CAPITAL EFFICIENCY**Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Item	Per Worker	Per Cow	Per Tillable Acre	Per Tillable Acre Owned		
31 Grazing Dairy Farms <sup>30</sup>						
Farm capital Real estate Machinery & equipment	\$ 360,429 65,740	\$ 8,244 3,382 1,504	\$ 3,313 604	\$ 6,676 2,739		
Ratios:	,	,				
Asset Turnover Ratio 0.48	Operating Expense 0.76	Interest Expense 0.03		Depreciation Expense 0.07		
Average Non-Grazing Farms <sup>30</sup>						
Farm capital Real estate Machinery & equipment	\$ 331,372 61,897	\$ 10,037 4,209 1,875	\$ 3,683 688	\$ 8,077 3,387		
Ratios:						
Asset Turnover Ratio 0.47	Operating Expense 0.81	Interest Expense 0.03		Depreciation Expense 0.06		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> See page 1 for a description of these groups of farms.

### Capital and Labor Efficiency Analysis (continued)

## LABOR FORCE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

Labor Force	Months	Age	Years of Education	Value of Labor & Management
Labor Force	Monuis	Agc	of Education	Wanagement
31 Grazing Dairy Farms				
Operator number 1	12.9	49	14	\$ 33,301
Operator number 2	4.6	51	13	14,194
Family paid	1.5			
Family unpaid	3.2			
Hired	12.7			
Total	34.9	/12 = 2.91 Worker	Equivalent	
		1.35 Operator	r/Manager Equivalent	
Average Non-Grazing Farms				
Total Labor Force	46.6	/12 = 3.88 Worker	Equivalent	
Operator's Labor		1.47 Operator	r/Manager Equivalent	
-		-	- •	

Labor	31 Grazing	Dairy Farms	Average Non-Grazing Farms		
Efficiency	Total	Per Worker	Total	Per Worker	
Cows, average number	127	44	128	33	
Milk sold, pounds	2,111,138	726,309	2,707,218	697,287	
Tillable acres	317	109	349	90	

	31 Grazing	Dairy Farms	Average Non-O	Grazing Farms
	Per	Per	Per	Per
Labor Costs	Cow	Cwt.	Cow	Cwt.
Value of operator(s)				
labor (\$2,500/month)	\$ 343	\$ 2.07	\$ 401	\$ 1.90
Family unpaid				
(\$2,500/month)	62	0.37	51	0.24
Hired	<u>306</u>	1.84	434	2.05
Total Labor	\$ 711	\$ 4.28	\$ 886	\$ 4.19
Machinery Cost	<u>\$ 739</u>	<u>\$ 4.45</u>	<u>\$ 844</u>	\$ 4.00
Total Labor & Machinery	\$ 1,449	\$ 8.74	\$ 1,730	\$ 8.19
Hired labor expense per				
hired worker equivalent	\$32	2,729	\$28,	504
Hired labor expense as %				
of milk sales	9.	2%	10.	7%

#### COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE FARM BUSINESS

#### **Progress of the Farm Business**

Comparing your business with average data from regional DFBS cooperators that participated in both of the last two years can be helpful to establishing your goals for these parameters. It is equally important for you to determine the progress your business has made over the past two or three years, to compare this progress to your goals, and to set goals for the future.

PROGRESS OF THE FARM BUSINESS Intensive Grazing and Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2007 &  $2008^{31}$ 

		Same 30 C	Grazing I	Dairy Farms	s	Same 88 Non-Grazing Dairy Farms					
Selected Factors		2007		2008		2007		2008			
C' - CP - in-											
Size of Business		121		129			127			132	
Average number of cows		95		98			103				
Average number of heifers	_		,			2			_	107	
Milk sold, pounds	2	2,021,861	•	2,128,002			,605,085		4	2,779,065	
Worker equivalent		2.89		2.94			3.73			3.94	
Total tillable acres		299		318			345			356	
Rates of Production		16.650		1 < 5 4 7			20.47.6			21 106	
Milk sold per cow, pounds		16,650		16,547			20,476			21,106	
Hay DM per acre, tons		1.9		2.3			2.6			2.8	
Corn silage per acre, tons		17.6		16.9			18.0			18.7	
<u>Labor Efficiency</u>											
Cows per worker		42		44			34			33	
Milk sold/worker, pounds		699,606		723,810			698,414			705,347	
Cost Control and Milk Price											
Grain & concentrate purchased											
as % of milk sales		23%		30%			25%			31%	
Dairy feed & crop expense											
per cwt. milk	\$	6.62	\$	8.19		\$	6.38		\$	7.74	
Labor & machinery costs/cow	\$	1,351	\$	1,454		\$	1,615		\$	1,726	
Operating cost of producing											
cwt. of milk	\$	13.43	\$	14.74		\$	14.15		\$	15.82	
Milk receipts per cwt.	\$	21.21	\$	19.96		\$	20.39		\$	19.33	
Capital Efficiency <sup>32</sup>											
Farm capital per cow	\$	7,846	\$	8,169		\$	9,358		\$	9,824	
Machinery & equipment per cow	\$	1,391	\$	1,499		\$	1,752		\$	1,841	
Asset turnover ratio		0.56		0.48			0.54			0.49	
<u>Profitability</u>											
Net farm income without appreciation	\$	127,469	\$	74,300		\$	128,518		\$	60,555	
Net farm income with appreciation	\$	173,058	\$	73,776		\$	171,650		\$	70,255	
Labor & management income		,	·	,			,			,	
per operator/manager	\$	63,865	\$	20,578		\$	54,085		\$	4,193	
Rate of return on equity	Τ'		+	- ,		7	- ,			,	
capital with appreciation		17.2%		2.3%			13.2%			1.3%	
Rate of return on all		22/0					10.270			1.070	
capital with appreciation		14.3%		2.9%			11.3%			2.1%	
Financial Summary		1		,,,,			11.070				
Farm net worth, end year	\$	755,559	\$	779,684		\$	943,568		\$	963,139	
Debt to asset ratio	Ψ	0.26	Ψ	0.28		Ψ	0.25		Ψ	0.27	
Farm debt per cow	\$	2,248	\$	2,418		\$	2,385		\$	2,713	
- I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I	Ψ	2,210	Ψ	2,110		Ψ	2,303		Ψ	2,713	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup>Farms participating both years.
<sup>32</sup>Average for the year.

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES PER COW AND PER CWT.

Same 30 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2007 & 2008

	20	07	2008		
Item	Per Cow	Per Cwt.	Per Cow	Per Cwt.	
Average Number of Cows	121		129		
Cwt. Of Milk Sold		20,219		21,280	
ACCRUAL OPERATING RECEIPTS					
Milk	\$3,532	\$21.21	\$3,303	\$19.96	
Dairy cattle	237	1.42	329	1.99	
Dairy calves	60	0.36	26	0.16	
Other livestock	19	0.11	55	0.33	
Crops	52	0.31	145	0.88	
Miscellaneous receipts	<u>133</u>	_0.80	<u>91</u>	0.55	
Total Receipts	\$4,032	\$24.22	\$3,951	\$23.87	
ACCRUAL OPERATING EXPENSES					
Hired labor	\$ 273	\$ 1.64	\$ 311	\$ 1.88	
Dairy grain & concentrate	809	4.86	991	5.99	
Dairy roughage	98	0.59	133	0.80	
Nondairy feed	0	0.00	2	0.01	
Professional nutritional services	2	0.01	0	0.00	
Machine hire/rent/lease	151	0.91	164	0.99	
Machinery repair & vehicle expense	158	0.95	151	0.91	
Fuel, oil & grease	118	0.71	164	0.99	
Replacement livestock	10	0.06	7	0.04	
Breeding	40	0.24	37	0.22	
Veterinary & medicine	83	0.50	89	0.54	
Milk marketing	158	0.95	175	1.06	
Bedding	26	0.15	29	0.17	
Milking supplies	71	0.42	62	0.38	
Cattle lease	0	0.00	0	0.00	
Custom boarding	5	0.03	8	0.05	
bST expense	4	0.02	3	0.02	
Livestock professional fees	13	0.08	13	0.08	
Other livestock expense	26	0.16	24	0.14	
Fertilizer & lime	139	0.83	168	1.02	
Seeds & plants	36	0.22	36	0.22	
Spray/other crop expense	19	0.11	23	0.14	
Crop professional fees	1	0.01	3	0.02	
Land, building, fence repair	69	0.41	73	0.44	
Taxes	69	0.41	63	0.38	
Real estate rent/lease	55	0.33	48	0.29	
Insurance	46	0.28	49	0.30	
Utilities	76	0.46	90	0.54	
Interest paid	132	0.79	100	0.61	
Other professional fees	17	0.10	13	0.08	
Miscellaneous	32	0.19	32	0.19	
Total Operating Expenses	\$2,735	\$16.43	\$3,061	\$18.50	
Expansion Livestock	1	0.00	26	0.16	
Extraordinary Expense	5	0.03	3	0.02	
Machinery Depreciation	173	1.04	186	1.12	
Real Estate Depreciation	<u>69</u>	0.42	<u>97</u>	0.59	
Total Expenses	\$2,983	\$17.92	\$3,373	\$20.39	
Net Farm Income Without Appreciation	\$1,050	\$ 6.30	\$ 578	\$ 3.49	

## RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES PER COW AND PER CWT.

Same 88 Non-Grazing Dairy Farms, 2007 & 2008

D 0	D C	
Per Cwt.	Per Cow	Per Cwt.
	132	
26,051		27,791
\$20.39	\$4,080	\$19.33
0.98	232	1.10
0.17	32	0.15
0.06	11	0.05
0.60	218	1.03
1.03	133	0.63
\$23.22	\$4,705	\$22.29
\$ 1.95	\$ 450	\$ 2.13
5.01	1,263	5.99
0.28	93	0.44
0.01	0	0.00
0.01	1	0.01
0.55	118	0.56
1.19	224	1.06
0.81	219	1.04
0.08	23	0.11
0.25	57	0.27
0.59	125	0.59
0.90	207	0.98
0.27	67	0.32
0.40	89	0.42
0.01	4	0.02
0.21	60	0.29
0.18	34	0.16
0.08	11	0.05
0.16	42	0.20
0.52	145	0.69
0.29	69	0.33
0.25	57	0.27
0.02	7	0.03
0.30	65	0.31
0.34	68	0.32
0.35	68	0.32
0.27	50	0.24
0.59	123	0.58
0.73	118	0.56
0.09	20	0.10
0.12	31	0.15
\$16.80	\$3,910	\$18.52
0.18	54	0.26
	1	0.00
		0.87
		0.46
		\$20.11
		\$ 2.18
		0.18       54         0.02       1         0.85       184         0.43       97         \$18.28       \$4,246

#### **Grazing Farm Business Chart**

The Farm Business Chart is a tool, which can be used in analyzing your business. Compare your business by drawing a line through or near the figure in each column, which represents your current level of performance. The five figures in each column represent the average of each 20 percent or quintile of farms included in the regional summary. Use this information to identify business areas where more challenging goals are needed.

FARM BUSINESS CHART FOR FARM MANAGEMENT COOPERATORS

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

					31 Intens	sive Graz	ing Dairy F	arms, 2	800				
			Siz	ze of E	Business						Rates of I	Produ	ction
Worker	No.	No.	Pou	nds		All Pas-	Nontilla	able S	Stock-	Pounds	s Tor	ns	Tons Corn
Equiv-	of	of	Mi	lk	Hay	ture &	Pasture	e &	ing	Milk	Ha	.y	Silage Per
alent	Cows	Heifers	So	ld	Acres	Hay	Tillab	le	Rate	Sold	DM	1/	Acre
						Acres	Acre	S		Per Cov	w Acı	re	
$(14)^{33}$	(12)	(12)	(12	2)	(11)	(11)	(11)		(11)	(12)	(11	)	(11)
6.35	369	287	5,721		427	714	855		6.6	22,83		1.1	22
3.43	134	101	2,574		174	272	368		4.7	20,20		2.6	19
2.21	60	48	1,128		130	218	252		3.4	18,69		2.1	16
1.57	50	34	833		104	170	190		2.4	14,58		1.9	14
1.26	38	27	556	*	67	119	147		2.0	11,94		1.7	11
				,007	07	117	147			•	F1 1	1.7	11
	Labor Efficiency Pounds		red	Hima	d Labor	0/ C	main ia M	[aahinar		Control abor &	Feed &		Feed &
Cows Per	Milk Sold		rea r Cost		as % of		rain is - M Milk	Iachiner Costs	•				
										chinery	Crop	_ 1	Crop
Worker	Per Worke	r Per w	Vorker	IVIII	k Sales	Rec	eipts I	Per Cow		osts per	Expenses		Expenses
										Cow	Per Cow	<u>'</u>	Per Cwt.
(14)	(14)	(1	4)	(	(14)	(	12)	(14)		(14)	(12)		(12)
65	1,042,812	2	\$0		0%	2	22%	\$471		\$1,082	\$783	3	\$5.67
43	778,717	7 12	,245		2	2	28	614		1,466	1,109	9	6.59
34	631,962	2 22	,936		4	3	32	780		1,740	1,366	5	7.55
28	475,373	3 30	,894		9	3	33	929		1,902	1,625	5	8.51
21	327,115	5 51	,917	1	14	۷	12	1,111		2,320	1,847	7	10.07
	Value and	Cost of N	Milk Pro	ductio	n					Profitability			
Net Milk	Mil	k Ope	erating (	Cost	Total Co	st	Net Farm	Ne	et Farm	Labo	r &	Labo	or & Mgmt.
Receipts	Recei	-	Ailk Pro		Production	on I	ncome with	Inco	ome w/o	Mgmt. I	ncome		ne Per Oper.
Per Cwt.		-	Per Cwt		Per Cw	t. A	ppreciation	ı App	reciation				er Cow
(12)	(12	3	(12)		(12)		(4)		(4)	(4)	)		(4)
\$19.95			\$11.48		\$18.3	1 :	\$245,583	\$23	35,847	\$89,6			\$627
18.89		,951	12.87		20.43		61,761		70,998	29,3			388
18.43		,624	13.92		21.50		39,445		42,962	10,7			139
18.03		,806	15.61		23.40		26,610		29,443		70		-14
17.20		,417	18.08		26.85		-592		-5,169	-33,9			-577
Profi	tability, con	tinued				Ca	pital Efficie	encv		F	inancial S	Summ	arv
Rate Retu		ate Return	1	Gove	ern-	Farm	Machiner	· ·	sset	Debt to	Farm		Change in
Equity C		All Capit		ment		Capital	& Equip-	•	urn-	Asset	Debt Pe		Net Worth
Without		ithout Ap		ceipts		er Cow	ment Per		ver	Ratio	Cow		with
preciat	-	reciation		Ċw			Cow		atio			A	ppreciation
(4)		(4)		(4	)	(14)	(14)	(	14)	(7)	(7)		(8)
11%		9%		\$0.8		\$6,258	\$855		0.63	0.00	\$26	ó	\$171,593
4	-	4		0.3		7,352	1,555		0.55	0.09	875		29,560
				0.5		0.664	1,004	0	1.5	0.10	1 0 6 1		15.260

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup>Page number of the participant's DFBS where the factor is located.

0.19

0.13

0.04

8,664

11,376

14,347

1,984

2,605

3,605

0.45

0.39

0.28

0.18

0.31

0.59

1,961

2,717

4,775

15,368

-1,832

-70,507

1

0

-5

0

-3

-11

#### **INCOME AND EXPENSE PROFILES**

Use the following two tables to make an income and expense profile for your dairy farm business. The figures in the quintile columns represent the average of the top 20 percent to the bottom 20 percent for each receipt and expenditure category. Each line is computed independently. The farms that comprise the top 20 percent in milk sales do not necessarily make up the top 20 percent of any other category. On each line circle the income and cost measures closest to the one for your farm. Then draw a vertical line connecting your circles on each table. The strongest profile will be a relatively straight line on the left side of the table.

#### RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES PER COW

31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

			QUINTILE		
Item	1	2	3	4	5
Accrual Operating Receipts					
Milk	\$4,489	\$3,951	\$3,624	\$2,806	\$2,417
Dairy cattle	629	378	262	156	-19
Dairy calves	116	46	29	13	-41
Other livestock	99	21	3	0	-5
Crops	372	196	102	1	-152
Miscellaneous receipts	323	148	109	62	33
Total Operating Receipts	\$5,126	\$4,578	\$3,963	\$3,417	\$2,960
Accrual Operating Expenses	, ,	. ,	, ,	,	. ,
Hired labor	\$10	\$87	\$148	\$252	\$540
Dairy grain & concentrate	565	905	1,130	1,315	1,507
Dairy roughage	0	1	21	124	247
Nondairy feed	0	0	0	0	18
Professional nutritional services	ő	0	0	0	3
Machinery hire/rent/lease	6	20	44	108	318
Mach. repair & farm vehicle exp.	93	145	181	224	323
Fuel, oil & grease	88	144	167	212	299
Replacement livestock	0	0	0	1	40
Breeding	9	29	49	67	109
Veterinary & medicine	33	51	67	104	201
Milk marketing	121	165	193	231	359
Bedding	0	3	18	42	82
Milking supplies	24	48	65	86	128
Cattle lease	0	0	0	0	0
Custom boarding	0	0	0	0	76
	0	0	0	0	39
bST expense				25	39
Livestock professional fees	0	0 12	11 33	55	101
Other livestock expense Fertilizer & lime	1	52	33 105	33 179	265
	4				
Seeds & plants	3	18	28	50	85
Spray/other crop expenses	0	5	18	34	88
Crop professional fees	0	0	0	2	13
Land, building, fence repair	22	52	74	109	186
Taxes	12	57	79 21	102	142
Real estate rent/lease	1	7	21	50	133
Insurance	22	31	45	72	124
Utilities	54	81	102	125	184
Interest	1	40	85	147	210
Other professional fees	0	1	13	23	46 57
Miscellaneous	4	14	22	34 \$2.492	57
Total Operating Expenses	\$2,040	\$2,545	\$3,240	\$3,483	\$4,019
Expansion livestock	0	0	0	0	117
Extraordinary expense	0	0	0	0	45
Machinery depreciation	55	137	190	240	414
Building depreciation	0	20	61	95	162
Net Farm Income w/o Appreciation	\$1,289	\$977	\$682	\$421	\$-39

## 41 **RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES PER CWT. OF MILK SOLD** 31 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

	QUINTILE				
Item	1	2	3	4	5
Accrual Operating Receipts					
Milk	\$21.12	\$20.20	\$19.63	\$19.13	\$18.42
Dairy cattle	4.47	2.26	1.36	0.87	-0.09
Dairy calves	0.62	0.30	0.18	0.07	-0.33
Other livestock	0.72	0.16	0.01	0.00	-0.03
Crops	2.26	1.31	0.65	-0.01	-0.86
Miscellaneous receipts	1.90	0.95	0.58	0.39	0.19
-					
Total Operating Receipts	\$27.64	\$23.70	\$22.88	\$21.70	\$20.05
Accrual Operating Expenses					
Hired labor	\$0.06	\$0.46	\$0.84	\$1.72	\$2.79
Dairy grain & concentrate	4.39	5.41	6.00	6.55	8.34
Dairy roughage	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.71	1.74
Nondairy feed	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15
Professional nutritional services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02
Machinery hire/rent/lease	0.03	0.13	0.22	0.67	1.78
Mach. repair & farm vehicle exp.	0.62	0.79	0.96	1.22	2.04
Fuel, oil & grease	0.55	0.79	0.98	1.21	1.74
Replacement livestock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.25
Breeding	0.06	0.18	0.28	0.40	0.52
Veterinary & medicine	0.21	0.30	0.41	0.61	1.10
Milk marketing	0.79	0.99	1.18	1.37	1.75
Bedding	0.00	0.02	0.11	0.21	0.48
Milking supplies	0.15	0.30	0.41	0.47	0.65
Cattle lease	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Custom boarding	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.47
bST expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.18
Livestock professional fees	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.14	0.21
Other livestock expense	0.00	0.06	0.20	0.31	0.61
Fertilizer & lime	0.02	0.36	0.58	0.90	1.51
Seeds & plants	0.02	0.10	0.19	0.27	0.46
Spray/other crop expenses	0.00	0.02	0.09	0.19	0.56
Crop professional fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.07
Land, building, fence repair	0.12	0.26	0.50	0.66	1.12
Taxes	0.06	0.38	0.46	0.55	0.85
Real estate rent/lease	0.00	0.04	0.12	0.33	0.74
Insurance	0.12	0.21	0.12	0.42	0.74
Utilities	0.12	0.46	0.58	0.73	1.05
Interest	0.00	0.40	0.50	0.73	1.52
Other professional fees	0.00	0.23	0.08	0.92	0.28
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.01	0.08	0.13	0.28
Total Operating Expenses	\$14.11	\$16.04	\$17.20	\$19.27	\$21.59
Expansion livestock	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.05
Extraordinary expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22
Machinery depreciation	0.32	0.81	1.10	1.53	2.24
Building depreciation	0.00	0.11	0.32	0.57	0.97
Net Farm Income w/o Appreciation	\$7.59	\$5.52	\$4.29	\$2.58	\$-0.45

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Each year DFBS cooperators volunteer to complete supplementary data collection forms looking at selected management aspects of the business or specific research areas being studied. This is in addition to the normal DFBS data collection form. Two areas that were examined this year were the source of dairy replacements and the breakdown of the milk income and marketing expenses. Following is a summary of this information.

#### SOURCE OF DAIRY REPLACEMENTS

36 New York Dairy Farms, 2008

Animals Entering Herd	Average
Number calving in 2008 for first time	221.0
Animals purchased, percent <sup>34</sup>	4.5%
Animals raised by farm, percent <sup>35</sup>	95.5%
Current Heifer Inventory	
Raised on dairy, percent	78.6%
Raised by a custom grower, percent	21.4%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup>Animals purchased are animals purchased from a different farm and were not the farm's genetics.

On the average farm, 221 animals calved for the first time in 2008. The breakdown of these animals for source was 4.5 percent purchased and 95.5 percent raised by the farm. Of the current heifer inventory, 78.6 percent were raised on the dairy and 21.4 percent were being raised by a custom grower. There is increased interest in evaluating the dairy replacement enterprise.

#### Milk Income and Marketing Expense Breakdown

Starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000, the Northeast switched to multiple components pricing, which changed the format of the milk check and how farmers received payment for their milk. To examine the breakdown of the gross milk income and the marketing expenses, 9 intensive grazing farms filled out a detailed form for all the different sources of income for milk sales and the milk marketing expenses on an accrual basis. This information is reported in the following table. The table is divided into five different areas, each representing a different area of income or expenses.

The first section looks at the value of the milk components on a per cwt. basis. The second area looks at the Producer Price Differential. The third area looks at the premiums a farm receives. Any premiums not specifically noted as quality or volume are included in market premiums. The fourth area looks at the expenses associated with marketing milk. The line item in this section is the expenses associated with utilizing forward contracting or hedging programs to market milk, such as commission or broker fees. The fifth area is the patronage dividends or refunds from the milk cooperative utilizing a monthly deduction from the milk check or a percent of the patronage dividend is treated as a capital purchase and is not a milk marketing expense. The cumulative total for these five areas is the net price received on farms. Your net farm price can be found on page 12 of your farm's DFBS report.

The table on page 43 reports the averages for these different areas.

For your individual farm, compare your accrual numbers following this same format to look at how you compare to other farms in your region and to identify possible areas to generate additional revenue.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup>Animals raised by farm are animals that were born on the farm and entered the herd, which includes animals raised by the farm or custom grower.

## AVERAGE<sup>36</sup> MILK INCOME AND MARKETING REPORT

9 Intensive Grazing Dairy Farms, 2008

	Pounds	Percent	Price/Pound	Total	\$/Cwt of Milk
BASE FARM PRICE					
Butterfat	146,128	3.93	\$ 1.60	\$234,338	\$ 6.31
Protein	118,183	3.18	\$ 3.92	\$463,422	\$ 12.47
Solids	207,745	5.59	\$ 0.06	\$ 11,878	\$ 0.32
<b>Total Component Contribution</b>					\$19.1
PPD	3,716,304			\$ 14,322	\$ 0.39
Base Farm Price					\$19.4
Premiums					
Quality				\$ 5,202	\$ 0.14
Volume				\$ 9,423	\$ 0.25
Market Premiums				\$ 15,649	\$ 0.42
<b>Total Premiums</b>					\$ 0.81
BASE FARM PRICE + PREMIUM					\$20.3
Deductions					
Promo				\$ 6,182	\$ 0.17
Hauling + Stop Charges				\$25,865	\$ 0.70
Market Fees & Coop Dues				\$ 3,465	\$ 0.09
<b>Total Deductions</b>					\$ 0.96
BASE FARM PRICE + PREMIUMS - D	EDUCTIONS				\$19.3
Marketing Programs					
Futures Contracts, Forward Contraction	ng, Etc.			\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
<b>Total Marketing Income</b>					\$ 0.00
Patronage Dividends \$ 4,679					
NET PRICE RECEIVED ON FARM, A	LL SOURCES				\$19.4
PPD - Hauling, \$ per cwt.					\$-0.31
PPD - Hauling + Market Premiums, \$ per cwt.					\$ 0.11
Net Marketing Value (PPD + Total Prem	niums – Total De	ductions), \$ p	er cwt.		\$ 0.24

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup>Each calculation of an average is independent of all others. Therefore, math operations on the detail will not result in the totals. However, detail in the "\$/Cwt of Milk" column will result in the totals.

#### **IDENTIFY AND SET GOALS**

If businesses are to be successful, they must have direction. Written goals help provide businesses with an identifiable direction over both the long and short term. Goal setting is as important on a dairy farm as it is in other businesses. Written goals are a tool which farm operators can use to ensure that the business continues to move in the desired direction. Goals should be SMART:

- 1. Goals should be **Specific**.
- 2. Goals should be **M**easurable.
- 3. Goals should be Achievable but challenging.
- 4. Goals should be **Rewarding**.
- 5. Goals should be <u>Timed</u> with a designated date by which the goal will be achieved.

Goal setting on a dairy farm should be a process for writing down and agreeing on goals that you have already given some thought to. It is also important to remember that once you write out your goals they are not cast in concrete. If a change takes place which has a major impact on the farm business, the goals should be reworked to accommodate that change. Refer to your goals as often as necessary to keep the farm business progressing.

It is important to identify both objectives (long-range) and goals (short-range) when looking at the future of your farm business.

A suggested format for writing out your goals is as follows:

- a. Begin with a mission statement which describes why the business exists based on the preferences and values of the owners.
- b. Identify 4-6 objectives.
- c. Identify SMART goals.

#### Worksheet for Setting Goals

I.	Mission and Objectives

II. Goals What	How	When	Who is Responsible
			r
Summarize Your Business F	Performance		
The Farm Business Identify three major strength	Chart on page 39 can be used as and three areas of your farm	I to help identify strengths and we business that need improvement	reaknesses of your farm business.
Strengths:		Needs improvement:	
	<del>-</del>		_

#### GLOSSARY AND LOCATION OF COMMON TERMS

<u>Accounts Payable</u> - Open accounts or bills owed to feed and supply firms, cattle dealers, veterinarians and other providers of farm services and supplies.

<u>Accounts Receivable</u> - Outstanding receipts from items sold or sales proceeds not yet received, such as the payment for December milk sales received in January.

Accrual Expenses - (defined on page 17)

Accrual Receipts - (defined on page 18)

**Annual Cash Flow Statement** - (defined on page 26)

**Appreciation** - (defined on page 19)

<u>Asset Turnover Ratio</u> - The ratio of total farm income to total farm assets, calculated by dividing total accrual operating receipts plus appreciation by average total farm assets.

**Balance Sheet** - A "snapshot" of the business financial position at a given point in time, usually December 31. The balance sheet equates the value of assets to liabilities plus net worth.

**bST Usage** - An estimate of the percentage of herd, on average, that was injected with bovine somatotropin during the year.

<u>Capital Efficiency</u> - The amount of capital invested per production unit. Relatively high investments per worker with low to moderate investments per cow imply efficient use of capital.

<u>Cash From Nonfarm Capital Used in the Business</u> - Transfers of money from nonfarm savings or investments to the farm business where it is used to pay operating expenses, make debt payments and/or capital purchases.

Cash Flow Coverage Ratio - (defined on page 27)

**<u>Cash Paid</u>** - (defined on page 16)

<u>Cash Receipts</u> - (defined on page 18)

<u>Change in Accounts Payable</u> - (defined on page 17)

<u>Change in Accounts Receivable</u> - (defined on page 18)

<u>Change in Inventory</u> - (defined on page 18)

<u>Cost of Term Debt</u> – A weighted average of the cost of borrowed capital to the farm. Calculate by multiplying end of year principal of each loan that is borrowed by the interest rate for each loan at that time. Add up each amount that is calculated for each loan and then divide by total amount of borrowed funds. Do not include accounts payable, operating debt or advanced government receipts. This information is found on pages 8 & 9 of the data entry form.

<u>Culling Rate</u> – (defined on page 32)

**Current Portion** - (defined on page 22)

<u>Current Ratio</u> – Measures the extent to which current farm assets, if liquidated, would cover current farm liabilities. Calculated as current farm assets at end year divided by current farm liabilities at end year.

<u>Dairy (farm)</u> - A farm business where dairy farming is the primary enterprise, operating and managing this farm is a full-time occupation for one or more people and cropland is owned.

<u>Dairy Cash-Crop (farm)</u> - Operating and managing this farm is the full-time occupation of one or more people, cropland is owned but crop sales exceed 10 percent of accrual milk receipts.

**Debt Coverage Ratio** – (defined on page 27)

**<u>Debt Per Cow</u>** - Total end-of-year debt divided by end-of-year number of cows.

**<u>Debt to Asset Ratios</u>** - (defined on page 24)

<u>Depreciation Expense Ratio</u> – Machinery and building depreciation divided by total accrual receipts.

<u>Dry Matter</u> - The amount or proportion of dry material that remains after all water is removed. Commonly used to measure dry matter percent and tons of dry matter in feed.

**Equity Capital** - The farm operator/manager's owned capital or farm net worth.

**Expansion Livestock** - Purchased dairy cattle and other livestock that cause an increase in herd size from the beginning to the end of the year.

<u>Farm Debt Payments as Percent of Milk Sales</u> - Amount of milk income committed to debt repayment, calculated by dividing planned debt payments by total milk receipts. A reliable measure of repayment ability, see page 27.

<u>Farm Debt Payments Per Cow</u> - Planned or scheduled debt payments per cow represent the repayment plan scheduled at the beginning of the year divided by the average number of cows for the year.

<u>Financial Lease</u> - A long-term non-cancelable contract giving the lessee use of an asset in exchange for a series of lease payments. The term of a financial lease usually covers a major portion of the economic life of the asset. The lease is a substitute for purchase. The lessor retains ownership of the asset.

<u>Hired Labor Expense per Hired Worker Equivalent</u> – The total cost to the farm per hired worker equivalent. Divide accrual hired labor expense by number of hired plus family paid worker equivalents.

<u>Hired Labor Expense as % of Milk Sales</u> – The percentage of the gross milk receipts that is used for labor expense. Divide accrual hired labor expense by accrual milk sales.

<u>Income Statement</u> - A complete and accurate account of farm business receipts and expenses used to measure profitability over a period of time such as one year or one month.

<u>Interest Expense Ratio</u> – Accrual interest expense divided by total accrual receipts.

<u>Labor and Management Income</u> - (defined on page 21)

<u>Labor and Management Income Per Operator</u> - The return to the owner/manager's labor and management per full-time operator.

Labor Efficiency - Production capacity and output per worker.

**Leverage Ratio** – (defined on page 24)

**Liquidity** - Ability of business to generate cash to make debt payments or to convert assets to cash.

Net Farm Income - (defined on page 19)

Net Farm Income from Operations Ratio – (defined on page 22)

Net Milk Receipts – Accrual milk receipts less milk marking expense.

<u>Net Worth</u> - The value of assets less liabilities equal net worth. It is the equity the owner has in owned assets.

Operating Costs of Producing Milk - (defined on page 33)

<u>Operating Expense Ratio</u> – Total accrual expenses less interest and machinery and building depreciation, divided by total accrual receipts.

<u>Opportunity Costs</u> - The cost or charge made for using a resource based on its value in its most likely alternative use. The opportunity cost of a farmer's labor and management is the value he/she would receive if employed in his/her most qualified alternative position.

<u>Other Livestock Expenses</u> - All other dairy herd and livestock expenses not included in more specific categories. Other livestock expenses include DHIC, registration fees and transfers.

<u>Owner/Operator Resources/cwt.</u> - The total value of equity, management, and labor contributed to the farm from all owner/operators. This measure is calculated by adding the interest on equity capital to the value of labor and management for all owner/operators and dividing by the hundredweight produced during the year.

<u>Part-Time Dairy (farm)</u> - Dairy farming is the primary enterprise, cropland is owned but operating and managing this farm is not a full-time occupation for one or more people.

<u>Personal Withdrawals and Family Expenditures Including Nonfarm Debt Payments</u> - All the money removed from the farm business for personal or nonfarm use including family living expenses, health and life insurance, income taxes, nonfarm debt payments, and investments.

<u>Profitability</u> - The return or net income the owner/manager receives for using one or more of his or her resources in the farm business. True "economic profit" is what remains after deducting all the costs including the opportunity costs of the owner/manager's labor, management, and equity capital.

Purchased Inputs Cost of Producing Milk - (defined on page 33)

**Renter** - Farm business owner/operator owns no tillable land and commonly rents all other farm real estate.

Repayment Analysis - An evaluation of the business' ability to make planned debt payments.

**Replacement Livestock** - Dairy cattle and other livestock purchased to replace those that were culled or sold from the herd during the year.

**Return on Equity Capital** - (defined on page 22)

**Return on Total Capital** - (defined on page 22)

<u>Solvency</u> - The extent or ability of assets to cover or pay liabilities. Debt/asset and leverage ratios are common measures of solvency.

Stocking Rate – (defined on page 31)

<u>Total Costs of Producing Milk</u> - (defined on page 33)

<u>Total Labor Cost/cwt.</u> - The total cost of all labor used on the farm on a per cwt. basis. The value of unpaid labor at \$2,500 per month plus the value of operator(s) labor at \$2,500 per month plus total hired labor expense divided by the number of cwt. produced.

<u>Whole Farm Method</u> - A procedure used to calculate costs of producing milk on dairy farms without using enterprise cost accounts. All non-milk receipts are assigned a cost equal to their sale value and deducted from total farm expenses to determine the costs of producing milk.

<u>Working Capital</u> – A theoretical measure of the amount of funds available to purchase inputs and inventory items after the sale of current farm assets and payment of all current farm liabilities. Calculated as current farm assets at end year less current farm liabilities at end year.

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Capital Efficiency         34         Net Farm Income         19           Cash From Nonfarm Capital Used in the Business         26         Net Investment         22           Cash Flow Coverage Ratio         27         Net Worth         23           Cash Paid         16         Number of Cows         32           Cash Paid         16         Number of Cows         32           Cash Receipts         18.26         Operating Costs of Producing Milk         33           Change in Accounts Receivable         18         Opportunity Cost         22           Change in Accounts Receivable         18         Opportunity Cost         22           Change in Net Worth         25         Outflows         26           Cost of Term Debt         24         Part-Time Dairy (farm)         16           Crop Expenses         17,30         Percent Equity         22           Corb/Dairy Ratios         29         Personal Withdrawals and Family Expenditures           Culling Rate         32         Including Nonfarm Debt Payments         26           Current Portion         22,23         Principal Payments         26           Dairy (farm)         16         Profitability         18           Dairy Gram)         16         <	bST Usage	16	Milking System	16
Capital Efficiency         34         Net Farm Income         19           Cash From Nonfarm Capital Used in the Business         26         Net Investment         22           Cash Flow Coverage Ratio         27         Net Worth         23           Cash Paid         16         Number of Cows         32           Cash Paid         16         Number of Cows         32           Cash Receipts         18.26         Operating Costs of Producing Milk         33           Change in Accounts Receivable         18         Opportunity Cost         22           Change in Accounts Receivable         18         Opportunity Cost         22           Change in Net Worth         25         Outflows         26           Cost of Term Debt         24         Part-Time Dairy (farm)         16           Crop Expenses         17,30         Percent Equity         22           Corb/Dairy Ratios         29         Personal Withdrawals and Family Expenditures           Culling Rate         32         Including Nonfarm Debt Payments         26           Current Portion         22,23         Principal Payments         26           Dairy (farm)         16         Profitability         18           Dairy Gram)         16         <	Business Type	16	Money Borrowed	26
Cash From Nonfarm Capital Used in the Business         26         Net Investment         22           Cash Flow Coverage Ratio         27         Net Worth         23           Cash Paid         16         Number of Cows         32           Cash Receipts         18,26         Operating Costs of Producing Milk         33           Change in Accounts Payable         17         Operating Expense Ratio         34           Change in Accounts Receivable         18         Opportunity Cost         22           Change in Inventory         16,17         Other Livestock Expenses         17           Change in Net Worth         25         Outflows         26           Cost of Term Debt         24         Part-Time Dairy (farm)         16           Crop Expenses         17,30         Percent Equity         24           Culling Rate         32         Including Nonfarm Debt Payments         26           Current Portion         22,23         Principal Payments         26           Dairy (farm)         16         Profitability         18           Dairy (farm)         16         Profitability         18           Dairy (farm)         16         Purchased Inputs Cost         33           Debt Coverage Ratio <t< td=""><td>* -</td><td></td><td>•</td><td></td></t<>	* -		•	
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Cash Flow Coverage Ratio         27         Net Worth         23           Cash Paid         16         Number of Cows         32           Cash Receipts         18,26         Operating Costs of Producing Milk         33           Change in Accounts Payable         17         Operating Expense Ratio         34           Change in Accounts Receivable         18         Opportunity Cost         22           Change in Inventory         16,17         Other Livestock Expenses         17           Change in Net Worth         25         Outflows         26           Cost of Term Debt         24         Part-Time Dairy (farm)         16           Crop Expenses         17,30         Percent Equity         24           Crop/Dairy Ratios         29         Personal Withdrawls and Family Expenditures           Culling Rate         32         Including Nonfarm Debt Payments         26           Current Portion         22,23         Principal Payments         26           Current Portion,         22,23         Principal Payments         26           Dairy (farm)         16         Profitability         18           Debt Coverage Ratio         27         Receipts         18           Debt Coverage Ratio         27	<del>-</del>	26	•	
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Cash Receipts         18,26         Operating Costs of Producing Milk         33           Change in Accounts Payable         17         Operating Expense Ratio         34           Change in Accounts Receivable         18         Opportunity Cost         22           Change in Inventory         16,17         Other Livestock Expenses         17           Change in Net Worth         25         Outflows         26           Cost of Term Debt         24         Part-Time Dairy (farm)         16           Crop Expenses         17,30         Percent Equity         24           Crop/Dairy Ratios         29         Personal Withdrawals and Family Expenditures           Culling Rate         32         Including Nonfarm Debt Payments         26           Current Portion         22,23         Principal Payments         26           Dairy (farm)         16         Profitability         18           Dairy (farm)         16         Purchased Inputs Cost         33           Debt Coverage Ratio         27         Receipts         18           Debt per Cow         24         Record System         16           Debt to Asset Ratios         24         Repayment Analysis         27           Depreciation         17,24	•			
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Cost of Term Debt         24         Part-Time Dairy (farm)         16           Crop Expenses         17,30         Percent Equity         24           Crop/Dairy Ratios         29         Personal Withdrawals and Family Expenditures           Culling Rate         32         Including Nonfarm Debt Payments         26           Current Portion         22,23         Principal Payments         26           Dairy (farm)         16         Profitability         18           Dairy Cash-Crop (farm)         16         Purchased Inputs Cost         33           Debt Coverage Ratio         27         Receipts         18           Debt per Cow         24         Record System         16           Debt to Asset Ratios         24         Repayment Analysis         27           Depreciation         17,24         Replacement Livestock         17           Depreciation Expense Ratio         34         Retained Earnings         25           Dry Matter         29         Return on Equity Capital         22           Education         35         Return on Total Capital         22           Equity Capital         22         Solvency         24           Expansion Livestock         17,26         Stocking Rate			•	
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EB No	Title	Fee (if applicable	Author(s)
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