Management of your feeding program.

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Motivation for improvements in feeding management

Cost / lb. of DMI = $.15

$8 @ 52 lb. DMI

Daily feed cost – 200 cow dairy

- $1,600 / day = $584,000
- Reduce shrink by 1% - $5,840
- Reduce over feeding by 5% = ~$30,000
- More consistent rations – milk production
- Influence on nutrient management plan?

Three rations on the farm?

- Formulated
- Mixed and delivered
- Consumed
- Are they the same?
Formulation

- Greatest computer models of D.C. Nutrition.
- Feed information
  - Forages
  - Commodities
  - Representative sample
  - Timely
  - Inventory

Mixed and delivered – who?

Mixing and delivery

- Changes in silage DM%
- Employee – training, evaluation
- Mixing
  - Load order
  - Accuracy / precision
  - Format for ration recipe?
  - Layout of feed storage and loading area.

Feed facility layout
Full loads but not too full?

The ration the cows consume?

Delivery – multiple groups/load

Feeding environment
Other items
silo face management

Commodity storage
management

Commodity quality

Byproduct commodity quality
Commodity quality

Controlling shrink?
- What you buy vs. what you feed and what the cows eat?

Impact of water quality on the feeding program?

Impact of water quality?
Managing the feeding program

- Feed quality assessment
- Communicating with the nutritionist
- Maintaining feed quality
- Accurate mixing and delivery
- Providing the environment to assure expected intake and performance
- Evaluation of the feeding program.