

# ABC's of optimal animal care

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Remember we are  
here because we love  
cows!

# My Background

- City Boy from Detroit
- Dairy BS @ Mich. State
- DVM @ Mich. State 1977
- Vet in WI - 21 years - 1977-1998
- Monsanto - 3 years
- Fair Oaks Dairy 2000-2006
- Central Sands Dairy 2007-2009

# Moved to WI in 1977

- The great irony is-
- To avoid freestalls!
- You couldn't get more manure on a cow with a trowel.
- Looked like they were going to deep fry them!

# ABC"s of Cow Comort

- Air,
- Bunk
- Comfort

# Central Sands Dairy

- 3,200 milk cows, 600 dry cows
- 4 row freestall barns
- 70 # /cow/day
- 72 Cow Rotary
- Calve 300+ cows per month
- 4 row barn
- Methane digester
- Sand bedding - 120-150,000 SCC





# "Pleistocene Mega fauna"

- Born during the last Ice Age
- First fences

**Covenant;**

**To care for, and**

**keep**

# The Star of the show!



# Guns, Germs & Steel

Jarred Diamond

# Only 11 species were able to be domesticated.

- Our Cow is the star!
- She Provided POWER, Protein, & Fertilizer
- She truly is the foundation of civilization.
- The foster mother of the human race
- All of the domesticated animals are "herd" species - looking for a leader
- Except the Cat!!

# Vaccine

- First vaccine....
- Small Pox
- Cow Pox
- Latin Vacca = Cow
- Vaccinate

Cow-inate!!!!



# Dry Cow Program

- Comfort
- Low Energy - High Fiber
- Refer to Jim Drackley's work



# Rules that still apply

- Cow Comfort is first
- Forage is king
- And Better Forage is better
- Preg rates means you keep cows
- Dry Cow program stops early fresh cow losses

Putting the Pieces Together

Concentric Consistency



24 Hours

# What does a day look like?

- Times milked
- Time in parlor
- When is she fed
- How long is she locked up
- Etc.

Laying



Eating

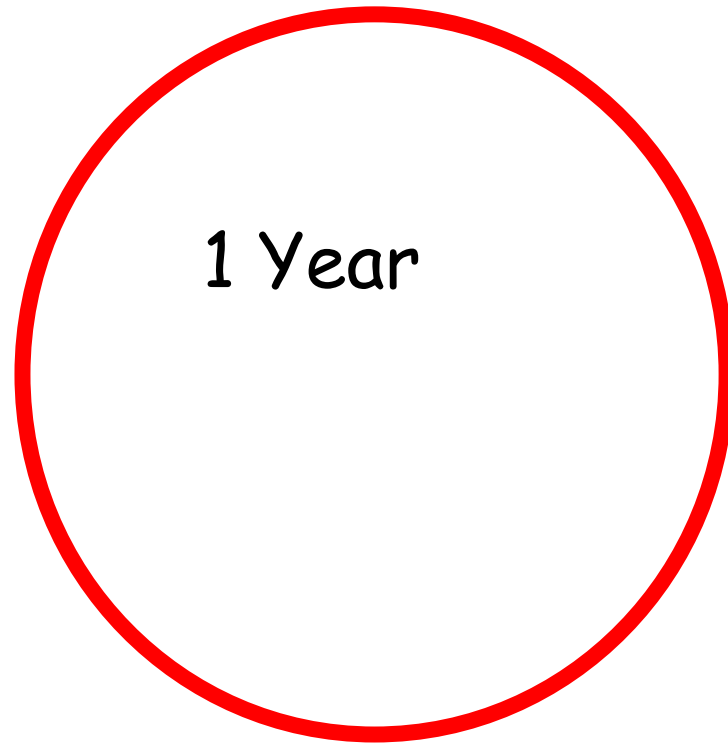


Drinking



4 29 '98





1 Year

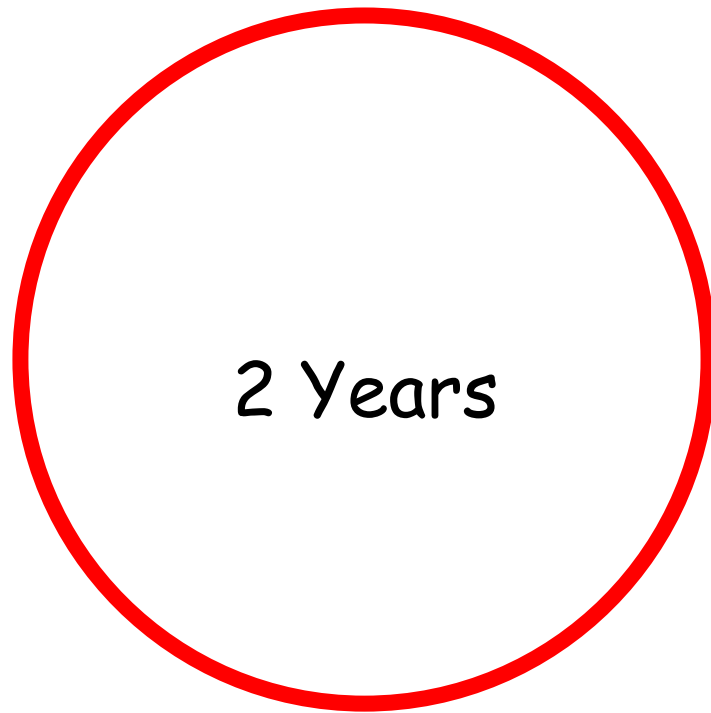
# What does a year look like?

- Group changes
- Rations
- When bred
- Etc.

Maternity Pen







2 Years

# What does two years look like?

- Maternity pen
- Hutches
- Weaning group
- Rations
- Group changes
- When bred
- Etc.

24 Hours  
In a milk cows  
Day.

1 Year in a  
Cows life.

2 Years in a  
Calf's life.

People

# Value of SOP's

- Dairy personal are certified in their position!
- Every person knows and understands their job!

# 3 things a Cows Should Do!

- Stand to MILK
- Stand to EAT & DRINK
- LAY DOWN

# Challenge Ahead

- In the next 50 years
- We have to make as much food as we have since the beginning of time! 100%
- 70% will come from new technologies

# Three messages

- All Dairymen are good to their cows
- All Dairymen are good to the land
- Dairy foods are good for you !

# Questions? Thoughts?

