

TEST DAY REPORTS: HAVE THEM YOUR WAY!

A popular advertising campaign for a fast-food chain a few years ago offered customers the opportunity to “have it your way”, emphasizing the individual uniqueness of each customer.

Dairy One Technicians using the field service version of Dairy Comp 305 software (FTECH), can customize test day reports to meet almost any need. Technicians have the ability to change the format, content, and sorting of the reports that they leave you on test day. Perhaps you would like your reports double-spaced, or perhaps a blank line at the end would make jotting down information easier. No problem. Have it your way.

Your technician also has the ability to generate completely new reports to deal with situations as they occur. Let’s look at several scenarios.

J5 WORK LIST

Dan Baker, of Weedsport, New York milks about 90 cows, and uses a common J5 protocol: one shot at dry off, one shot 28-30 days after dry off during the dry period, and a third shot at calving. Dan wondered if his technician could generate a work list that could help. He was quick to notice that the first and last shots were easy to track (at dry off and at freshening), and that what he really needed was a list of those due for their second shot. Dan’s technician was able to modify the existing dry off action list to include the date for the second J5 shot. Dan now has a useful list, and it doesn’t even require an extra report, it looks like this:

BNAME	LACT	MILK	PSCC	DRY60	2J5	DUE	RPRO
7668	1	52	22	8/11	9/10	10/10	PREG
7628	2	56	71	8/18	9/17	10/17	PREG
7664	1	66	31	8/18	9/17	10/17	PREG
7662	3	52	81	8/25	9/24	10/24	PREG

- BNAME** = barn name
- LACT** = lactation number
- MILK** = last test day milk weight
- PSCC** = previous somatic cell count
- DRY60** = date to dry off for 60 day dry period
- 2J5** = date of second J5 shot
- DUE** = due date
- RPRO** = current reproductive status

Dan also gives his heifers J5 28-30 days prior to calving. The heifer due (hfrdue) command was modified resulting in the following list:

BNAME	RPRO	1J5	DUE	LSIR	FDAT	STAT
7668	PREG	7/12	8/12	7H4213	-	-
7648	PREG	7/15	8/13	7H5255	-	-
7650	PREG	7/20	8/18	7H4213	-	-

- BNAME** = barn name
- RPRO** = current reproductive status
- 1J5** = date of J5 shot
- DUE** = date due to calve
- LSIR** = last sire
- FDAT** = date of freshening
- STAT** = status date

Dan hangs these reports on a clipboard in a handy place in the barn and uses them to identify the animals needing vaccinations. He simply marks down the animals on the list, and is able to transfer the information to the animal’s health record at a convenient time. The information is timely, convenient, and didn’t generate an extra list. These factors make it much more likely to be used and less likely to be buried in the stack of reports left on testday. It allows Dan to make decisions timely and profitably.

CULLING CANDIDATES

Dairy One Farm Service Technician, Bob Todd reports that he was able to help one of his customers develop a list of potential culling candidates. Bob and the dairy producer discussed what information would be useful for identifying the cows, resulting in the following report:

ID	LACT	RPRO	DUEIF	DIM	MILK	305M E	N-MAST	INF-MAST	3
168	3	BRED	5/25/03	31	8	9170	0	-	0
87	3	BRED	5/24/03	349	20	33200	2	3	4
153	1	NO-BRED	-	691	34	28340	0	-	2
223	1	NO-BRED	-	179	24	10650	3	4	2
225	2	FRESH	-	36	34	14600	1	5	0
800	7	BRED	4/14/03	205	37	16170	1	1	0

- ID** = cow ID
- LACT** = lactation number
- RPRO** = current reproductive status
- DUEIF** = due date if pregnant to the current breeding
- DIM** = days in milk
- 305ME** = 305 day mature equivalent
- NMAST** = number of mastitis events
- INFMAST** = infected quarter; 1 = RF, 2 = RH, 3 = LF, 4 = LH
- THREE** = 3-quarter cows; 1 = RF, 2 = RH, 3 = LF, 4 = LR
- MILK** = current test day milk weight

The dairy reports mastitis events for all cows each month, as well as which quarter was last infected, and information on three-quartered cows. The list includes cows producing less than fifty pounds of milk on testday. Cows ten days or less in milk are excluded from the list since these cows are still in transition. Cows appearing on the list are prime candidates to be culled with all the necessary information needed to make the decision. You may have different criteria for your culling list. Perhaps you can spend a few moments in discussion with your technician and develop the list that will work for you.

COMPREHENSIVE TEST DAY REPORT

Occasionally, a dairy producer will move into the Dairy One service area and want to duplicate a report that he received from another service provider. Dairy One technicians can do this. A producer who recently moved into the Wayne County, New York area from Lancaster, Pennsylvania wanted to duplicate a test day report that he had used in his previous service area. His technician was able to produce the following report, which gives a quick over-view of testday results.

ID	MILK	P-MILK	MK-DEV	LACT	FDAT	DIM	RPRO	DRY 60	DUEIF	LSIR
6	110	0	0	2	6/18/02	37	FRESH	-	-	-
118	102	105	16	5	12/27/01	210	BRED	1/24/03	3/25/03	97H627
446	95	84	25	1	11/09/01	258	BRED	1/03/03	3/04/03	97H76
154	91	83	17	1	3/29/02	118	OPEN	-	-	-
129	87	69	10	4	3/15/01	497	PRED	9/12/02	11/11/02	97H21

BNAME = barn name

MILK = last test day milk weight

PMILK = previous test day milk weight

MKDEV = milk deviation - the difference between what we thought she would do on test day, and what she actually did

LACT = lactation number

FDAT = current fresh date

DIM = days in milk

RPRO = current reproductive status

DRY60 = dry date for 60 day dry period

DUEIF = due date if pregnant to current breeding

LSIR = last sire used

In this example report, animals are listed in descending order by milk. Most reports can be sorted by the item that works best for you, in ascending or descending order.

For more information, or if you have specific requests for test day information, contact your local Dairy One Farm Service Technician. You can also contact Dairy One at 1.800.496.3344, or e-mail dmr@dairyone.com.