AGENDA

10:00 to 11:00 a.m.  Dealing with high feed costs: supplementation on pasture. Dr. Rhonda Gildersleeve and graduate student Marion Dutreuil will present results of a survey of supplementation practices among grass-based and organic dairy farmers in Wisconsin. Dr. Brad Heins, University of Minnesota will present results of a study on grain supplementation effects on economics, behavior, and pest management strategies for organic dairy cows.

11:15 to 12:15 p.m.  Automated milking systems (robotic milkers). Panel will include Ron Van Langen, a Wausau area grazier who uses robotic milkers in his pasture based system, plus Dr. Santiago Utsumi from Michigan State University, which has a grass-based dairy research farm using robotic milkers and Dr. Doug Reinemann, UW Madison milking systems expert.

12:30 to 1:45 p.m.  Pasture irrigation and other drought strategies. Panel will include Peter Gaul, a Benton, MO grazier who uses center pivot irrigation for his 1000+ cow pasture-based system and Paul Onan, from Amheast Junction, WI, who uses portable pasture irrigation system on his 110 cow dairy in Wisconsin. Alex Crockford will summarize pasture yields and economic performance of portable pasture irrigation in Wisconsin.

2:00 to 3:00 p.m.  Roundtable discussion: Join Dr. Tony Rickard from University of Missouri, Grant Chadwick, a grazing consultant and former dairy farmer from New Zealand, and a panel of farmers and researchers for a discussion of anything and everything related to managed grazing.

3:00 to 6:00 p.m.  Free reception in the Waubesa Room, second floor of the Expo Center: Opportunity to meet with speakers and sponsors for refreshments and conversation.

Thanks to the following companies for sponsoring the seminars and reception: American Milking Shorthorn Society, Byron Seeds, Creative Genetics, Crystal Creek, CRV, DFA Dairy Grazing Services, Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship/GrassWorks, GenoGlobal, Graze Magazine, Horizon Organic, Livestock Improvement Corporation, Midwestern BioAg, Normande Genetics, Organic Valley, PasturePro Fence, Prairie Creek Seed, Producer's Choice Seed, Spalding Cow Vac, Taurus Service.

For more information:
Laura Paine, WI DATCP
608-224-5120
Laura.paine@wi.gov