**Herd Management Questionnaire**

*To be completed once by the lab personnel interviewing the farmer (prompt language for interviewer are in blue italics)*

Please provide Farm and veterinarian contact information

1. **Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date completed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
2. **Farm owner: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
3. **Farm manager (if not owner): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
4. **Farm Address: Street/road number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_   
     
   City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
     
   Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
5. **Herd Vet Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Vet Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
      
    Vet Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
6. **In this first series of questions, we want to learn about your mastitis issues or concerns.**

6.a) How big of a problem is mastitis on your farm?

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6.b) Do you have cows with chronic mastitis problems? *If yes, say:* “Please describe.”

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*If answer to 6b was “Yes,” complete 6c through 6.f.iv. If “No,” skip to 6h.*

6.c) How do you identify these cows?

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6.d) How many cows are you managing with chronic mastitis, as a percent of your milking

herd?

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6.e) Do you ever culture these cows? *If yes, say:* “Please describe what pathogens have been identified.”

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6.f.i) How do you manage these cows?

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*Depending on their answer to 6.f.i, the interviewer may need to ask questions 6.f.ii through 6.f.iv or may skip to 6.g.*

6.f.ii.) *If not specifically addressed in 6.f.i:* Are these cows housed differently than the rest of the herd?

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6.f.iii.) *If not specifically addressed in 6.f.i:* Are these cows milked in a different way than the rest of the

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6.f.iv.) *If not specifically addressed in 6.f.i:* Is the milk from these cows handled in a different way than the

rest of the herd?

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6.g) What kinds of things do you think affects a cow’s risk of getting mastitis?

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6. h) What do you do on your farm to reduce a cow’s risk of getting mastitis?

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6.i) How do you think bedding type on your farm might influence a cow’s risk of getting mastitis?

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6.j) How do you manage bedding on the farm to reduce a cow’s risk of mastitis?

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1. **Classification of clinical mastitis**

7.a) How do you recognize a cow with **clinical** mastitis? *(Interviewer: do not read responses. Circle all appropriate to code response)*

A. Check for abnormal milk once per day or less often

B. Check for abnormal milk every milking

C. See abnormal milk on milk filter

D. CMT positive

E. Swollen quarter

F. Decreased milk yield and sick cow

G. Veterinarian diagnoses

H. Other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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7.b) How do you recognize **subclinical** mastitis? *(Interviewer: do not read responses. Circle all appropriate to code response)*

7.b.i

A. CMT positive

B. Other cowside somatic cell count test

C. Monthly DHIA somatic cell count scores

D. Don’t know what subclinical mastitis is *(go to part 7.b.ii.)*

E. Never have subclinical mastitis

F. Do not check for subclinical mastitis

G. Other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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7.b.ii. *If they don’t know what subclinical mastitis is, say:* “Some ways you might identify

subclinical mastitis include CMT test, other cowside somatic cell count test, or monthly DHIA somatic cell count scores. Do you use any of these to recognize subclinical mastitis?

H. CMT positive

I. Other cowside SCC test

J. Monthly DHIA SCC scores

K. Never have subclinical mastitis

L. Do not check for subclinical mastitis

M. Other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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7.c) If records are kept, how do you record clinical mastitis events? (check one)

□ Software (e.g. on-farm record keeping program)

□ Paper

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7.d) If mastitis treatment records are kept, what details do you record about a clinical mastitis event? (E.g. cow, quarter, date, treatment given, culture result if available, days treated, other) Describe what you record:

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7.e) Number of people identifying mastitis on the farm: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7.f) Do you routinely perform bacteriological culture of mastitic milk? (check one)

□ Never

□ All

□ Sometimes

7.g) Do you routinely perform bacteriological culture of high SCC cows? (check one)

□ Never

□ All

□ Sometimes

7.h) Do you routinely perform bacteriological culture of fresh cows? (check one)

□ Never

□ All

□ Sometimes

7.i) If you culture milk from mastitic cows, where is this done (check one):

□ Reference lab (e.g. State or University Diagnostic lab)

□ Local vet clinic

□ On-farm culture

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7.j) Do you keep a record of clinical mastitis events on farm? (check one)

□ Always

□ Sometimes

□ Temporarily until milk is good

□ Never

7.k) Which lactation would you say the majority of **clinical** mastitis cases occur in? (check one)

□ First lactation

□ Second lactation

□ Third lactation and above

□ No real discernable pattern in distribution

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7.l) Which lactation would you say the majority of **subclinical** mastitis cases occur in? (check one)

□ First lactation

□ Second lactation

□ Third lactation and above

□ No real discernable pattern in distribution

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7.m) Would you say the majority of the **clinical** mastitis cases you see each year on your farm are first-time infections or chronic infections? (check one)

□ First-time infections

□ Chronic infections

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7.n) Would you say the majority of the **subclinical** mastitis cases you see each year on your farm are first-time infections or chronic infections? (check one)

□ First-time infections

□ Chronic infections

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

7.o) What percent of mastitis cases per year would you say resolve, and what percent result in a cow leaving the herd? *Interviewer: Doesn’t need to add up to 100% of cases*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ % resolve per year

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ % leave herd per year

1. **Milking procedures**:

8.a) Milking schedule for the majority of the herd (check one):

□ 2X

□ 3X

□ Other (describe):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8.b) Milking System (check one):

□ Robot (Automated milking system)

□ Parlor: \_\_\_\_ Rotary \_\_\_\_ Parallel \_\_\_\_ Herringbone

□ Tie stall

8.b.i) If milked in a parlor, are milking units routinely washed/sprayed off between uses? (check one)

□ Yes, routinely between milking individual cows  
□ Yes, routinely between milking individual pens  
□ Occasionally, if the milking unit gets very dirty (e.g. splattered with manure)  
□ No, only at the completion of milking

8.b.ii) If milked in a parlor, how often do you spray the deck during milking? (check one)

□ After every turn of cows that comes through each side  
□ As needed throughout milking if it gets very dirty  
□ Only at the completion of milking

8.d) Do you pre-dip teats with a chemical disinfectant before milking? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

8.d.i) If yes, type of pre-dip disinfectant solution (check one):

□ Iodine

□ Chlorhexidine

□ Hydrogen peroxide

□ Other (name): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8.d.ii) Please provide the name of the pre-dip product used: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8.e) Do you post-dip teats with a chemical disinfectant after milking? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

8.e.i) If yes, type of post-dip disinfectant solution (check one):

□ Iodine

□ Chlorhexidine

□ Hydrogen peroxide

□ Other (name): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8.e.ii) Please provide the name of the post-dip product used: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8.f) Do milkers routinely fore strip teats as a part of udder prep? (Check one)

□ Yes □ No

8.g) Are udders routinely wiped dry with a towel prior to attaching the milking unit? (Check one)

□ Yes □ No

8.g.i) If yes, do you use paper (disposable) or cloth (reusable) towels? (Check one)

□ Paper □ Cloth

8.g.ii) If yes, how many cows are wiped with each towel? (check one)

□ One □ Two □ More than two

8.g.iii) If one per cow, how many teats do you routinely wipe with each towel? (check one)

□ One □ More than one

8.h) If you use cloth towels, describe how they are laundered (washed) and dried? (check one)

□ Yes, washed and dried

□ Washed and used damp

□ other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8.k) Do you clip or flame udders one or more times per lactation? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

8.l) Do you have any cows with docked tails? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

8.n.i) If yes, what percent of your adult cows would you estimate have docked tails?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ cows

8.m) Do you trim switches on tails? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

8.m.i) If yes, how frequently do you trim switches? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

8.o) Do milkers wear gloves (e.g. nitrile gloves) during milking? (check one)

□ Yes, all milkers, consistently

□ Yes, some milkers, but not all, or inconsistent use

□ No, no one on our farm wears gloves during milking

□ Other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Dry cow mastitis control program:**

9.a) Do you routinely use vaccines for mastitis control (e.g. J-5, J-VAC, or ENDOVAC-Bovi)? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

9.a.i) If yes, product name? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

9.b) Do you dry cows off between lactations? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

9.b.i) If yes, how many days on average are they dry? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ days

9.c) Do you use any sort of intramammary product at dry-off? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

9.c.i) If yes, product name? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

9.d) Do ever have cases of mastitis in your dry cows? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

9.d.i) If yes, how many cases on average per year? \_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Diet:**

10.a) How do you primarily feed your lactating cows during the winter? (check any that apply)

□ Total mixed ration

□ Component fed

□ Forage

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

10.a.i) If you feed any forage, does it include ensiled forage or dried? (check one)

□ Dried

□ Ensiled

□ Combination of dried and ensiled

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

10.b) Do you feed any supplemental minerals with your ration? (check one)

□ Yes

□ No

10.b.i) If yes, product name or name of mill if product name not known?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

10.c) How do animals get water when they are inside your winter housing system? (check one)

□ Individual water bowls

□ Troughs

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

10.d) What is the source of drinking water for lactating cows? (check one)

□ Well

□ Municipal

□ Surface

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

10.e) Do you ever test the water for lactating cows for levels of bacteria, nitrates, or other trace elements? (check one)

□ Yes

□ No

10.f.i) If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Miscellaneous:**

11.a) Do employ any fly control measures for lactating cows during the summer months? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

11.a.i) If yes, what kind? (check any that apply)

□ Fly tape

□ Predator wasps

□ Fly traps

□ Dust/paint cows with fly repellent

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

11.b) Do you feel like you have an issue with flies inside during the winter months? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

11.c) Where do cows usually have their calves? (check any that apply)

□ Designated calving pen

□ On a bedded pack with other cows

□ In her stall

□ Pasture

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

11.d) Normally, do calves nurse on their dams before they are removed? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

11.c.i) If yes, how long on average? (check one)

□ Few minutes

□ Few hours

□ Few days

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

11.e) Do you feed waste from mastitic cows or high cell count cows to calves? (check one)

□ Yes, waste milk from high cell count cows and mastitic cows

□ Yes, but only from high cell count cows

□ No waste milk from mastitic or high cell count cows is fed to calves

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Winter Housing system – adult lactating and dry cows: (Fill in each box as appropriate)**

12.a) What is your winter housing system for lactating and dry cows? If it’s a combination, please estimate the percent of time on average over a 24-hour period they spend in each housing component.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | Lactating cow housing | Dry cow housing |
| Free stall | |  |  |
|  | |  |  |
| Tie stall | |  |  |
| Loose housing | Bedded pack |  |  |
| Dry lot |  |  |

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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12.b) Do lactating cows have access to outside paddock or exercise yard during the winter?

(Check one)

□ Yes □ No

12.b.i) If Yes, on average, what is the number of hours outside per day: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_hours

12.b.ii) Describe their outdoor turn-out space:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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12.c) When was your current winter housing system constructed?

Estimated age of winter housing system in years \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **Bedding management:**

*If free stall or tie stall facility*, *complete following section:*

**If free stall or tie stall** what is the….

13.a) Estimated depth of the bedding: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ inches

13.b) Frequency of scraping manure from back of stall surface:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ times/day (or) \_\_\_\_\_ times/week (or) \_\_\_\_\_times/month (or) \_\_\_\_\_ times/year

13.c) Frequency of adding new bedding material to the stalls:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ times/day (or) \_\_\_\_\_ times/week (or) \_\_\_\_\_times/month (or) \_\_\_\_\_ times/year

13.d) Frequency of scraping the alleyways behind stalls:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ times/day (or) \_\_\_\_\_ times/week (or) \_\_\_\_\_times/month (or) \_\_\_\_\_ times/year

13.e) If deep bedding free stalls, has the bedding ever been completely dug out and removed, then replaced (e.g. removing the entire back third of bedding from free stalls)?: (Check one)

□ Regularly

Schedule: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_times/week (or) \_\_\_\_\_\_ times/month (or) \_\_\_\_\_\_ times/year

Date last completed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

□ Infrequently

Date last completed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

□ Never

*If loose-housing system with bedded pack, complete following section:*

**Describe the management system**

13.f) The bedding management system is: (check one)

□ Compost bedded pack barn with no bedding surface management

□ Compost bedded pack barn with bedding surface management (e.g. aeration or surface tilling)

□ Compost bedded pack barn with other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

13.g) Estimated depth of the bedding: current \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (feet or inches, specify)

Maximum depth before cleanout \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (feet or inches, specify)

13.h) Frequency of adding new bedding material:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ times/day (or) \_\_\_\_\_ times/week (or) \_\_\_\_\_times/month (or) \_\_\_\_\_ times/year

13.i) If deep bedding, how frequently is bedding dug out, removed, then replaced? (check one)

□ Regularly

1. Schedule: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_times/week (or) \_\_\_\_\_\_ times/month (or)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ times/year

1. Date last completed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

□ Never

1. **Bedding material details (for lactating cows)**

14.a) How long has the current winter bedding system been in use?

\_\_\_\_\_months (or) \_\_\_\_\_ years

14.b) Type of bedding material used for lactating and dry cows: (Check any that apply, and note rank of importance)  
 14.b.i 14.b.ii  
 Lactating cows Dry Cows

New sand □ □

Reclaimed (recycled) sand □ □

Limestone □ □

Manure solids (Biosolids) □ □

Shavings □ □

Sawdust □ □

Woodchips □ □

Straw □ □

Hay □ □

Other (Describe): □ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ □ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Depending of their answer to 14.b, skip to the appropriate section(s) below, and complete this section by allowing all participants to answer 14.h*

14.c) Answer the following questions if you use **SAND:**

14.c.i) Is the sand one of the following? (check one)

□ Silica sand

□ River sand

□ Don’t know

14.c.ii) If new sand, is it washed before you purchase it? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

14.c.iii) If using reclaimed sand, how is it recycled (recaptured)? (check one)

□ Passive sand separator lanes

□ Mechanical separator

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.c.iv) If using reclaimed sand, time in storage from recapturing the sand to reusing in stalls: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ days (or) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ weeks

14.c.v) If using reclaimed sand, it is stored: (check one)

□ In the open or □ Under cover

14.c.vi) If using reclaimed sand, check which of the following is true: (check one)

□ We use reclaimed sand 12 months per year

□ We use reclaimed sand most of the year, but in the coldest months we will purchase and use new dry clean sand.

14.d) Answer the following questions if you use **MANURE SOLIDS:**

14.d.i) Is it one of the following? (check one)

□ Raw (Green)

□ Composted

□ Digested

□ Other (Describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.d.ii) Are the solids pressed before use? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

14.d.iii) Are the solids mechanically dried (with a dryer) before use? (check one)

□ Yes □ No

14.d.iv) If Digested solids,

a) What is the temperature is the methane digester (if known)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_°F

b) What is the flow rate or material through the digester (if known)? \_\_\_\_\_weeks

14.d.v) If using manure solids, time in storage from recapturing the solids to reusing in stalls:

\_\_\_\_\_ Days (or) \_\_\_\_ weeks

14.e) Answer the following questions if you use **STRAW or HAY:**

14.e.i) Straw or hay? (check one)

□ Straw

□ Hay

□ Both

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.e.ii) Purchased or produced on farm? (check one)

□ Purchased

□ Produced

□ Both

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.e.iii) If hay, dry or ensiled? (check one)

□ Dry hay (e.g. round bales)

□ Ensiled hay (e.g. wrapped round bales)

□ Both

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.e.iv) Storage location? (check one)

□ Stored under cover

□ Stored outside

□ Both

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.f) Answer the following questions if you use **WOODCHIPS, SHAVINGS or SAWDUST:**

14.f.i) Kiln dried or “fresh?” (check one)

□ Kiln dried

□ Fresh or raw

□ Both

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.f.ii) Storage location? (check one)

□ Stored under cover

□ Stored outside

□ Both

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.g) Answer the following questions if you maintain a **BEDDED PACK**.

14.g.i) Method for constructing pack

□

□

□

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.g.ii) Method for monitoring pack composition and structure

□

□

□

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.g.iii) If you till/aerate your pack, how often do you do this?

□

□

□

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.g.iv) If you till/aerate your pack, how often do you do this?

□

□

□

□ Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.h. Do you use bedding conditioner?   
 □ Yes □ No

14.h.i) If Yes, Name of conditioner: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

14.h.ii) Amount applied: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ounces per stall treated  
  
 (or) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ounces per 24 square feet of pack/yard area

14.h.iii) How frequently is the conditioner applied to stalls:   
 \_\_\_\_\_\_ times/week (or) \_\_\_\_\_ times/month

14.i. Anything you’d like to tell us about your bedding management practices that weren’t included in the above questions?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **Herd Information**

15.a)What is/are the breeds of dairy cattle on your farm?(describe all breeds):

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

15.b) What is the rolling herd average calculated for your farm? If not on milk test, what is the average milk production per cow, in pounds of milk per cow per year?

Rolling herd average: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lbs/cow/year

***OR:***

Average milk production: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lbs/cow/year

15.c) What are the number of lactating cows, dry cows, and young stock on your farm?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Lactating cows | Dry cows | Young stock |
| Number |  |  |  |

Are these numbers exact or approximate? 15.d) Exact actual numbers \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Approximate numbers \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

15.e) What is the average age of lactating cows in your herd, in years?

Average age lactating cow in years \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Note how this answer was generated: (check one)*

□ Milk testing results

□ On-farm software

□ Estimated by producer

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

15.f)How many years has this farm been certified organic?

Years current farm certified organic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

15.g) How many years have you owned or managed any dairy farm?

Years owned or managed a dairy farm \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

15.h) How many years have you owned or managed an organic dairy farm?

Years owned or managed an organic dairy farm \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

15.i) If you have an on-farm electronic record keeping system, what is it? (Check one)

□ DairyComp 305 (or Scout)

□ DairyPlan

□ DHI-Plus

□ PCDART

□ Does not have an on-farm electronic record keeping system

□ Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **DHIA Information**

16.a) What are the DHIA herd cows and RAC (access code) numbers?

DHIA Herd code number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(for VT herds this should begin with 13)*

RAC \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*(this is a 4-digit number)*

*The producer may not know their RAC code off the top of their head. If they are willing it can be found by opening their herd management software and exploring (File – HerdDownload setup)*

16.b) How many times per year do you participate in DHIA testing? Do you do this monthly

(12 times per year), less frequently, or more frequently?

Frequency of DHIA testing: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ times/ year

16.c) What is the DHIA lab you test through?

DHIA Lab name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ State:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Possible (likely) answers will be VT-DHIA; Lancaster DHIA, or Dairy One – you can prompt with these choices.*

Tuckers ideas about the bedded pack section

Area of pack

*Obtain this from observational survey*

Average number of cows on the pack at once

*Yup*

Is the pack tilled or aerated mechanically?

*Yup*

How deep, how frequent?

*Yup*

When is the pack removed from the barn (how frequently while cows are still accessing pack?)

*Yup*

How long is the barn empty of pack and not used to house cows?

*Yup*

Do you measure Temperature, how?

What management practices do you use to control temperature?

Do you measure moisture, how?

What management practices…

Do you measure density/pack composition, how?

What management practices…

*Yup*

Other factors so you measure : eg cow cleanliness, air temp, …? And what management practices do you use to control them?

*Yup*

Bedding type mass added per unit of time, eg Two 500 lb round bales added every day, 10 yard (how do we get a mass here?) wood chips every other week. Something we’d want to preload in the preliminary contact.

*Yup*

Do these rates change throughout the season, why?

*Yup*

Fed on the pack?

*Yup*

These questions will be hard to get solid answers for unless farmers are looking at numbers of total bedding added. Might be better to just ask about total bedding used over the length of time spent in the barn.

Observations about effect of bedded pack on cow wellbeing? This could be asked generally, too, and farmers might not have an opinion, especially if they have not tried another housing/bedding style.

Observations about whether using pack has effect on mastitis incidence/prevalence?