

DAIRY CATTLE MANAGEMENT (AVS/AS 472)
Course Syllabus
FALL 2009

Date	Day	Lecture Topic	Lecturer
Aug 24	M	Course Introduction, Objectives, Syllabus	Fox & Ahmadzadeh
26	W	Overview of dairy industry	Amin Ahmadzadeh
28	F	Milking Mgt. Mastitis, Records	Larry Fox
31	M		
Sep 2	W	“	“
4	F	“	
7	M	No Class	
9	W	Milking Mgt. Mastitis, Records “	“
11	F	“	“
14	M	“	“
16	W	“	“
18	F	UI: Last day to drop a course w/o “W” Sep 23 rd for WSU	“
21	M	“	“
23	W	Exam I (Industry, Milking Mgt, Mastitis, Records)	
25	F	Lactation	Mark McGuire
28	M		“
30	W	Nutrition, Feeding Mgt., Metabolic Disorders, bST	“
Oct 2	F	“	“
5	M	“	“
7	W	“	“
9	F	“	“
12	M	“	“
14	W	“	“
16	F	“	“
19	M	<i>UI: Mid-term grades due</i>	“
21	W	Reproductive Management , Record Analyses	Amin Ahmadzadeh “
23	F		
26	M	“	
28	W	“	“
30	F	“	“
Nov 2	M	Exam II (Nutrition and Reproduction)	
4	W	Heifer Raising and Management	Amin Ahmadzadeh
6	F		
9	M		
11	W	Dry Cow and Transition Cow Management	Amin Ahmadzadeh
13	F		
16	M	Partial Budget and Enterprise Mgt.	
18	W	“	“
20	F	“	“
30	M	Culling Decision	
Dec 2	W	Genetics, Selection, Milk Marketing	John Swain
4	F	“	
7	M	“	
9	W	“	
11	F	"	

**Dairy Cattle Management – Fall 2009
Course Syllabus**

**“Management is art and science of combining resources and people to produce a quality product profitably.”
- - Dr. William Etgen**

Course number: UI: AVS 472; WSU: AS 472

Instructors: UI: Amin Ahmadzadeh (course coordinator; amin@uidaho.edu), Mark McGuire (mmcguire@uidaho.edu),

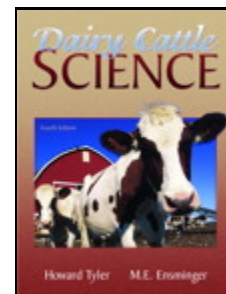
WSU: Larry Fox (Fox@wsu.edu) and John Swain (swainjb@wsu.edu)

Texts:

Required

**Howard Tyler, Iowa State Univ.
M. E. Ensminger,**

ISBN: 0-13-113412-4
Publisher: Prentice Hall



Other References: Most of our material will come from recent research and extension publications. Other good sources of information on Dairy Management topics can be found in Hoard's Dairyman, Progressive Dairyman, Dairy Herd Management.

World Wide Web site:

<http://www.avs.uidaho.edu/avs472/>
<http://www.ansci.wsu.edu/courses/as472/472.asp> OR

Objectives:

- Teach and acquaint students with research-based knowledge needed to manage or work in commercial dairy farms and allied dairy industry:
 1. To understand how the subjects of, milking, reproduction, nutrition management, records management, herd health, and genetics and selection integrate with the operation of a commercial dairy and
 2. To understand how to apply these concepts to the efficient management of a dairy herd, the goal being high production of a quality product.

Philosophy:

This is a senior level course. Learning, understanding and combining knowledge will be emphasized over memorization. Facts that are memorized should be used to understand the key concepts. Exams will be geared to test your understanding of the material – not memorization skills. Your ability to use the facts you have learned will largely determine how successful you will be in this course.

Responsibility for learning in this course is jointly shared by the student and the instructor. **The instructor** is responsible for defining what is expected (Learning objectives), where the information can be found (lectures, references), helping the learning process by providing examples, illustrations, answering questions during or after class, and measuring the degree of learning by testing. **The student** is responsible for learning the subject matter specified in the learning objectives, asking question about those items they don't understand, and contributing their ideas to the class discussion.

Field trip and presentation:

A field trip designed to evaluate different management practices on commercial dairies is **REQUIRED** for the course. **This year's trip will be on Oct 24** and we will visit a few farms around eastern/central Washington. We will depart early in the morning and return in the early evening. An attire of old clothes and boots are recommended. Small teams of students will be formed to evaluate each dairy enterprise and develop an outline describing the strengths and weaknesses of the assigned operation and provide sound solutions for the weak areas of the management. Each team must prepare a 20-minute presentation that has to be presented to the instructors. The time and the place of the presentations will be arranged.

ATTENTION: The field trip is mandatory and required. If students cannot attend the field trip, they must notify the instructor(s) no later than Aug 28. Students not participating in the field trip will be given other assignments to ensure that they receive a similar educational experience.

Presentation: Each team will deliver a 15 to 20-minute presentation (15 min Presentation and five-minute question and answer period) on the assigned farm. The analysis should include a description and overview of the dairy, the production statistics and an evaluation of how the dairy is performing based on your expectations for performance given the dairy's constraints and your knowledge of dairy production. Lastly you are asked to make recommendations for changes you deem will improve the profitability of the dairy. A PowerPoint presentation is required. The instructors will provide the projector and other needed media equipment. The students will be expected to have their presentation saved to a USB memory stick, flash drive. Each team must be prepared to answer the questions and defend their case. At WSU, field trip presentations will be given at 7:00-10:00pm **on Nov. 17 in Clark 122.** **Attendance at the field trip report is required if the student is to receive credit for the exercise. If students cannot attend the report period, they must notify the instructor(s) no later than Aug 28. Students not participating in the field trip report will be asked to submit a written report so that they receive a similar educational experience.**

Grading:

Grading will be based on two-hour exams, assignments, a field trip report, quizzes a final exam. Two thirds of the value for the final exam will be from questions on the last section of the course and the other third will be comprehensive. Unless other wise informed, short quizzes will be given every Friday.

Exam I	100 pts
Exam II	100 pts
Homework Assignments and Quizzes and Field Trip Participation	250 pts
Exam III & Final Exam	<u>200 pts</u>
<i>Total</i>	<i>650 pts</i>

Final Exam: UI: Tuesday December 15, 7:30-9:30 AM @ Ag Sci. Room 104; WSU: Tuesday December 17, 7:00-9:00 PM @ Clark room #149 (room is subject to change)

Laboratory:

A companion Dairy Production Laboratory (WSU-AS 172) is offered this semester at WSU and a more comprehensive similar course (Principles and Practices of Dairy Science; AVS 172) will be offered at UI (Thursdays from 1:30 to 4:30). It is not required for AS or AVS 472 but ***is highly recommended for students with limited dairy farm background.*** The purpose of 172 is to give students hands-on experience in different dairy production practices. If you have specific interest in one or more topics but are not enrolled in the lab you may be able to attend individual labs; check with me prior to showing up. For those that attend this lab, old clothes and boots are recommended. For more information and detail contact Dr. Fox or Dr. Ahmadzadeh.

Management's job is to see the company not as it is ... but as it can become.

John W. Teets, Chairman, Greyhound

WHAT MANAGERS DO

R. A. Milligan, Professor of Agricultural Economics, Cornell University

When the cows get out and the fence is down, there is not much question about what needs to be done: Find the cows, get help if needed, and fix the fence.

If you are the manager and the principal worker on this farm where the cows got out, some mixture of management and labor is required to get the job done. Yet no time was wasted in deciding which was which. Priority was established to get the job done in a hurry and resources were mobilized to do it.

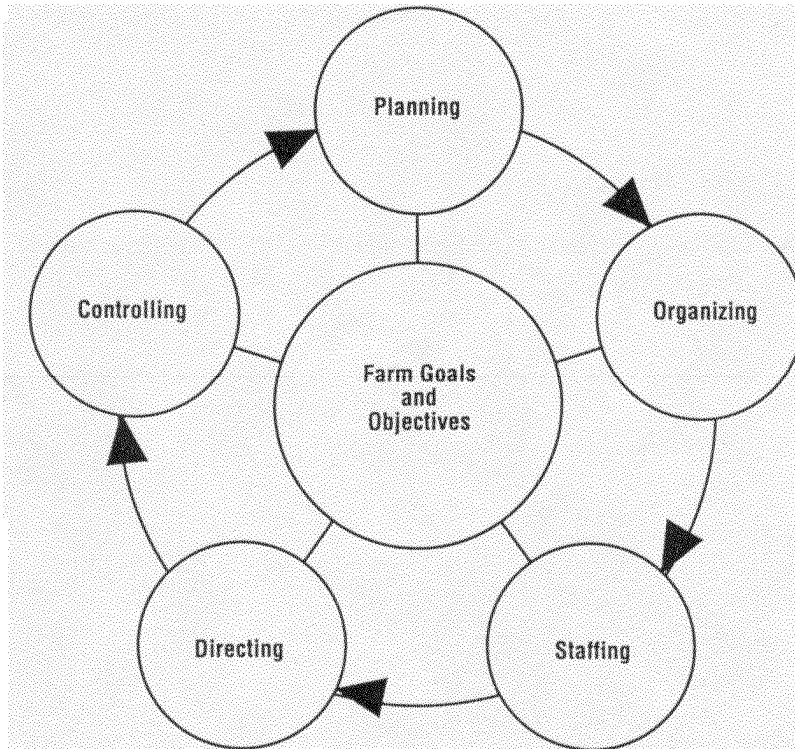
It is not hard to recognize that making decisions is part of management. Getting the cows back into the pasture and fixing the fence is mostly labor. Deciding how to fix the fence and what to use, mobilizing the labor, and determining why the cows got the fence down to begin with are all management. Recognizing that something may have been amiss, such as not checking the fence recently or not having enough feed for the cows in the pasture is part of management as well.

Here are some of the things farm managers do:

- Set goals and objectives
- Recognize and identify problems
- Respond and act when problems occur
- Seek, compile, and utilize relevant information
- Consider and analyze alternative courses of action
- Accept responsibility for these decisions
- Evaluate the results of these decisions
- Develop training programs for family members and employees
- Direct and evaluate family members and employees
- Make buy and sell decisions
- Control financial operations
- Organize the use of resources
- Establish the timing of operations
- Monitor operations and check up on everything

While there is overlap in this list, it could easily be expanded. The list does indicate, however that there are a lot of things that managers do. That is why good full-time managers are crucial to most sizable businesses and why time must be set aside for management in any business – even if the principal laborer is also the manager.

All functions of farm management work toward achieving farm goal and objectives



Adapted from Farm Management, 1889. R. A .Milligan