

Improved Health Indicators For Milk Recording Organizations. Added Value to Milk Recording Analyses

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Abstract

During 2017, we began a collaboration field study to evaluate the added value to milk recording analyses of the Herd Management Tools predictive fatty acid models. These models help farmers to improve feed efficiency of the herd, as well as to monitor and prevent excessive negative energy balance and displaced abomasum in early transition cows.

This collaboration field study between Delta Instruments (milk analyzer manufacturer), Uniform Agri (MTM reporting system) and VVB Veluwe Ijsselstreek (dairy herd improvement association) show that the accurate interpretation of the results combined with an excellent communication to the farmers by the reporting company, have enabled farmers with information to improve not only the total production and composition of milk, but also to prevent metabolic diseases inherent to the early transition period on dairy cows.

Keywords: improved feed efficiency, ketosis, de novo fatty acids, NEFA, reporting to farmers.