

Abstract by Jacob Van der Westhuizen - New developments in using milk recording information in South Africa

Due to recent developments that changed the scene of farm animal recording in South Africa a more integrated approach is followed to utilise information at farm level. One such important development is the creation of dairy management reports of use to individual dairy farmers and industry agencies. Changes also include direct access of current Logix (the web interface to the database) users to own herd management information and the setting up of own benchmarks by using other herds (of choice). Industry agencies also now have access to milk recording information on breed, district, regional and national level to compare trends in production and other properties. Reporting also provide for own report design by individual farmers or advisors with the choice of adding technical and other comments and management proposals. Although final reports are generated to pdf format, web access allow for interactive use of different types of graphs and tables to assist in management decisions.