Blueprint® Dairy Calf & Heifer Program
The Blueprint® dairy calf and heifer products are first-of-their-kind, designed to allow calves to reach their genetic potential and enhance digestion and nutrient intake while promoting natural defenses. Founded on the belief that the form of nutrition delivery is just as important as the level of supplementation, Blueprint products are made with 100% Bioplex® organic trace minerals for superior bioavailability to support exceptional health and performance. To learn more, visit www.hubbardfeeds.com/brand/blueprint.

BoVamine® Dairy Plus
When you feed BoVamine® Dairy Plus to your herd, you’re putting the power of good bacteria to work. Daily feeding of BoVamine Dairy Plus supports normal functions of the rumen and intestinal tract — digestion, absorption, barrier functions and immunity — and keeps your cows healthy and productive. It’s the power of good bacteria at work. For more information scan this QR code or see our ad on page 217.

Galaxy Merlin2G is making waves in automatic milking! Several units have already been installed in the U.S. and more are scheduled to be installed this fall. Find out if this milking robot is the right solution for your family and farm. Contact Galaxy, the U.S.A based dairy automation company with more than a decade of experience, today to learn more about what the Merlin2G has to offer. Learn more at amsgalaxy.com.

Allflex Matched Sets are linked by the same ID number. This makes it easy to use and compare animal information collected using Allflex Tissue Sampling Units, EID tags or visual ID tags. For example, the common identifier ties animal ID to health protocols or genetic testing reports, which can help in management of breeding, health and progeny records. Matched Sets simplify many complex steps, saving time, improving accuracy and streamlining record keeping. Learn more at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=im6wI0xtMFg.

Up to $12,000 off
Are you a farmer or custom operator looking to maximize your hay production while saving big? Look no further! Kuhn, the global leader in hay-making equipment, is offering incredible discounts, up to $12,000 off our top-of-the-line hay tools. Whether you’re a seasoned farmer or just starting out, these deals are too good to pass up. https://www.kuhn-usa.com/offers-finance/current-offers/current-coupon-offers/utm_source=Hoard%27s+utm_medium=ProdSpotlight&utm_campaign=AllCoupons

Methionine, an essential nutrient, is typically the foremost limiting amino acid influencing the performance and profitability of dairy cows. Meeting methionine requirements results in heightened production, improved metabolic health, and enhanced reproductive performance. Smartamine®M, Adisseo’s rumin-protect methionine with a unique pH-sensitive polymer, shields the amino acid during rumen passage, guaranteeing its release in the abomasum and efficient absorption in the small intestine. Learn how to protect your margins and calculate IOFC with Smartamine®M at Milkpay.com.

Growing silage takes time, but now there’s a way to speed up the process. BONSILAGE® SPEED C offers aerobically stable silage in just 14 days. It includes our exclusive new lactic acid bacteria strain, Lactobacillus diolivorans, that ensures intensive fermentation in corn and sorghum silages during the first few weeks of ensiling. BONSILAGE SPEED C. It’s fast! Learn more at BonsilageUSA.com.

The innovative DM3X+ ROTARY PARLOR, offering robust endurability for enduring durability. With advanced machine learning algorithms, it optimizes milking efficiency, accommodating more cows per stall to maximize throughput. This system significantly reduces manual labor, boosting overall farm efficiency. Customization options, accurate Cow-ID, and comprehensive data tracking ensure optimal performance. Versatile and adaptable, the DM3X+ stands as the future of dairy farming — efficient, productive, and built to last. To learn more, email: usainfo@dairymaster.com or phone +1 717-979-6035.

Milkpay.com
Evolution® RST-Driven: Improved Performance or Your Money Back! This revolutionary, transitional barrel liner delivers peak performance for large herd dairy operations. Engineered for high speed, low slip and ease of use, the RST-Driven has proven itself a winner in test trials vs. leading competitors. The innovative design minimizes mouthpiece vacuum and promotes teat-end health. Available with and without venting. RST-Driven has quickly become the premier choice among Conewango’s popular Evolution family of liners. 800.828.9258 www.evolutionliners.com.

Every day you work hard to keep her healthy. Don’t lose momentum during her dry period. “Involution transition” following dry off, represents high risk for new infections. Prior to calving the “colostrogenesis transition” is also high risk. Do all you can to aid in the prevention of mastitis by Sealing the Deal with an application of an improved formulation T-HEXX® DRY™ External Teat Sealant as your final step at dry off and once again, 10 days before calving. www.huvepharma.us

Adisseo introduces DynOmix™, a disruptive new feed additive. DynOmix™, a disruptive new feed additive from Adisseo, increases dry matter intake and milk production from transition through peak lactation. Research reveals its positive impacts on nutrient intake and milk production. DynOmix influences the production of volatile fatty acids and stabilizes rumen pH. It contributes to sustainability through decreased carbon footprints. As milk production per cow increases, methane production per unit of milk decreases. DynOmix is pelletable with a recommended feeding rate of 5g/head/day. www.adisseo.com.

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United in our commitment. Over 30 years of pharmaceutical experience, a stable of established brands, and an ability to react quickly to changes, US VET® is constantly developing new solutions to help improve your business. Solutions such as Ampicillin for Injectable Suspension, Ampicillin Sodium, go-dry™, MASTICLEAR®, and of course, Quartermaster® Suspension. And all our products continue to be made in the USA. United in our commitment to farming communities, we are US VET®. www.usvet.com.

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Take the negativity out of your prefresh program. Does hypocalcemia wear you out? Try the novel prefresh strategy X-Zelit®, proven through university studies and on-farm trials to ensure high blood calcium concentrations. Stop chasing urine pH and get a good night’s sleep with this simple, science-based way to gain more control in the transition cow pen. When you manage hypocalcemia differently, there’s no longer any reason to use the four-letter word. Learn more at Protekta.com.

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2024 Spring Showcase Product Spotlight

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Optimizing gut health beyond the rumen in cows helps improve performance, prevent leaky gut and mitigate stress. CLOSTAT® from Kemin offers proven protection against pathogens including clostridia, Salmonella and Escherichia coli, resulting in better overall ruminant gut health. Developed using a patented strain of Bacillus subtilis PB6, it is resistant to acidic pH levels and high temperatures and backed by three peer-reviewed modes of action. Learn more at kemin.com/clostat-dairy.

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LinPRO-R, our Omega-3 feed ingredient, developed specifically for ruminants, alters the activation status of the immune system and produces an anti-inflammatory response. Omega-3 fatty acids are less abundant in dairy diets and can help counterbalance the Omega-6’s, which amplify inflammation, especially during the transition period. Proper energy balance during the transition period provides multiple benefits including optimized immunity, improved conception and enhanced milk production. Learn more at www.otfarms.com. Ph: 1.306.543.4777.

DFA commits to working as one

There is often strength in numbers, and that is certainly the case for Dairy Farmers of America (DFA), the nation’s largest dairy cooperative. In 2023, DFA directed 64.9 billion pounds of milk for both its farmer-owners and others through the cooperative’s consolidated businesses. Leaders of the organization spoke about the value the cooperative brings to its more than 5,500 farmer-owners and the greater dairy industry, and they emphasized their commitment to serve the membership as one connected cooperative, which was the theme of the 26th annual meeting held in Kansas City, Mo., last month.

Chairman Randy Mooney said that DFA is connected to the dairy industry by taking the lead on important initiatives. DFA is also connected to consumers who are nourished by dairy products. Most importantly, he said, is that members are linked to one another as one cooperative.

“This connection has always been vital, but it is essentially important coming off a year like we just experienced on the farm,” he noted. “2023 was a challenging year for many of us. Low milk prices squeezed margins tighter than we’ve seen in quite some time, maybe ever.”

He assured the farmers in the audience that DFA is in a position to weather changing business environments and economic challenges because of its focus on growing strategically, investing in innovation, and preparing for the unpredictable.

Mooney talked about maximizing domestic markets as well as looking for global opportunities. DFA currently exports more than 30 forms of dairy products, Mooney noted, but exports represent just 3% of members’ total milk production.

“We know our strongest market is still here at home, but we also need a long-term view of global growth,” said Mooney. “We know the positive impact exports can have on our industry and specifically our cooperative.”

Giving dairy a voice

Both Mooney and DFA President and CEO Dennis Rodenbaugh shared examples of how a united approach benefits producers. This included input into the federal milk marketing order (FMMO) modernization process. Another example was the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act, which passed the House late last year. Mooney said almost 900 emails in support of the act were submitted by DFA employees and farmer members, helping move this legislation forward.

Milk in schools is one focal area for DFA. “No one is more motivated to attack the ongoing declines in fluid milk consumption. Modernizing milk is core to our strategy, and school milk is an important part of that,” said Rodenbaugh.

During the cardboard shortage last year that impacted the availability of milk cartons, he said some suppliers shorted their school customers, putting milk at risk of being replaced. DFA, on the other hand, used its national network to move packaging, production, and even found other ways to provide milk such as extended shelf life and aseptic products to fully meet the needs of the 25,000 schools and 7 million students that rely on the cooperative, Rodenbaugh said. And now, DFA is working with supply partners to build packaging capacity to ensure that this risk is eliminated.

With 25 successful years in the rearview mirror, the leaders of DFA look to the future with excitement and a commitment to become even stronger. “We’ll never know being a cooperative. We will forever be working to improve and do better.”

For example, Rodenbaugh noted the challenge of collecting 3,500 loads of milk from farms of various sizes in diverse settings across the country and hauling it to 500 different processing locations. Their trucks are traveling 24 hours a day, rain or shine, 365 days a year, covering 120 million miles annually.

Rodenbaugh said they are looking for ways to streamline milk collection, documentation, and hauling that will enhance efficiency and safety and be more sustainable, financially and environmentally.

He spoke highly of the cooperative’s employees and their commitment to meet members where they are and to support their way of life. Rodenbaugh said DFA had positive earnings in 2023, and 2024 is off to a good start. “Our goal is to put value back into our members’ pockets and into your future,” he said.

“We only get here when we are connected as one,” said Mooney in closing, reemphasizing the “one connected cooperative” theme. “We were built on the foundation that we are stronger together, and that remains true today.”

As a dairy farmer from Missouri, Mooney concluded by saying, “Our potential is endless, and our time is now. I am excited about our future. My family and I are proud to be one of the 5,500 farm families that are Dairy Farmers of America.”

The author is the managing editor of Hoard’s Dairyman.