

# DAIRY NOTES

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

KINGS COUNTY



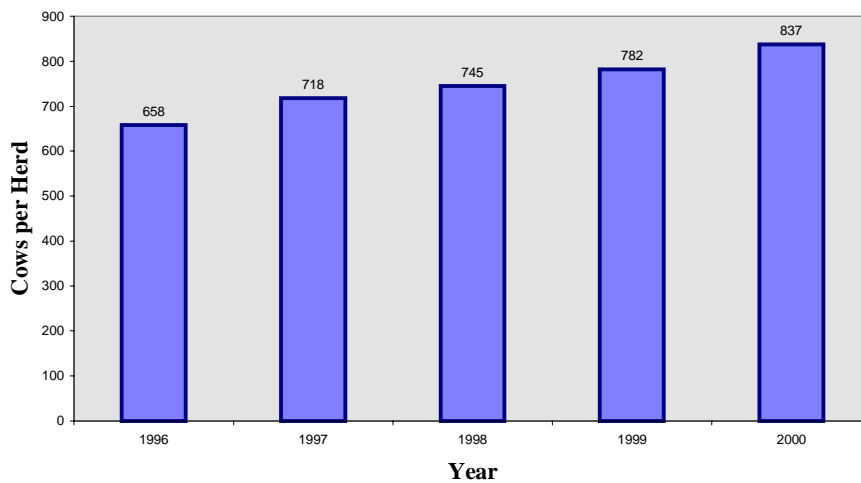
March 2000

## Kings County Average Herd Size

*“We have seen the enemy and he is us...”*

Average herd size jumped up to 837 cows per herd in the county this year. We added about 12,000 cows compared to last year at this time, the biggest jump since I have been keeping records. The number of dairies has stayed between 145 to 150 for the last five years, so just about all of the growth comes from existing dairies. A few big, new dairies are in various stages of planning and development and they will eventually add even more cows, but generally growth has resulted from established dairies that keep adding cows. So before you are too quick to denounce big, new dairies as the symbol of all that is wrong with the dairy industry, take a hard look at all of the older dairies (including your own?) that have grown tremendously in recent years.

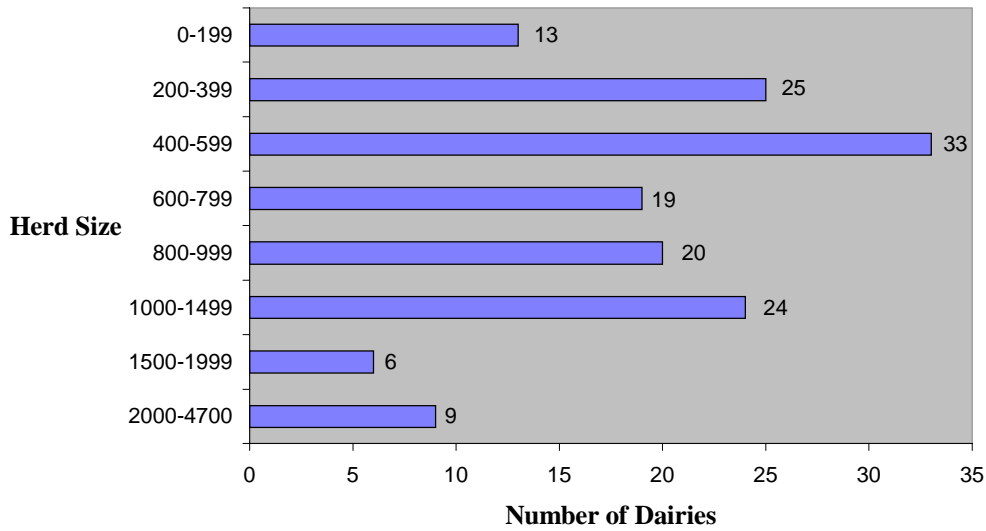
Average Herd Size  
Kings County 1996-2000



## Herd Size Comparisons

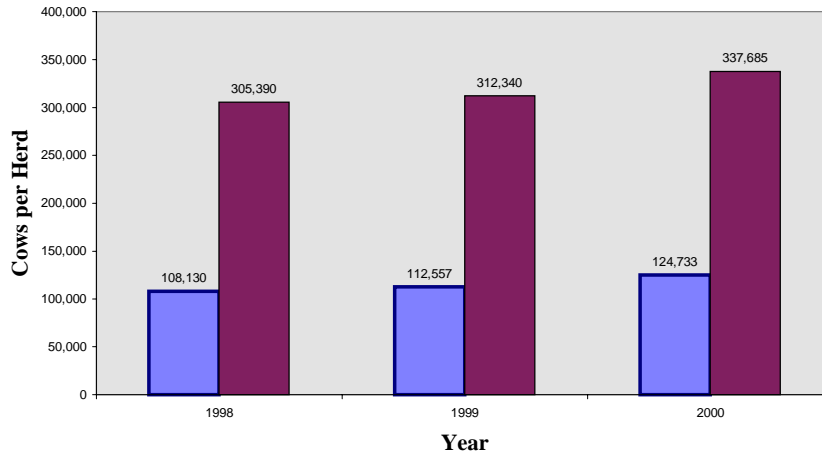
The chart on the next page shows the number of dairies in the county that are in various herd size categories. The total number of dairies in each size category is listed at the end of the bar for that category. For example there are 13 dairies in the 0 to 199 cows per herd group, and there are 9 dairies in the 2000 to 5000 cows per herd group. Currently there are 124,688 cows on 149 dairies in the county. That compares to 337,685 cows on 299 dairies next door in Tulare County.

## Kings County Distribution of Dairies by Herd Size



The chart below shows total cow numbers (milking and dry) for Kings and Tulare counties for the last three years. You can see that both counties had a big jump in cow numbers between 1999 and 2000. Tulare County has almost three times as many cows and twice as many dairies as Kings County. If the four Boswell dairies proposed for Kings County came on board tomorrow at full capacity (about 25,000 adult cows) we still wouldn't come close to Tulare County cow numbers.

**Kings and Tulare Counties  
Cow Numbers 1998-2000**



## Local DHIA Annual Meetings and Awards Banquets

**Tulare County DHIA** – Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at TDES Hall in Tulare. Contact Larry at 686-6173.

**Fresno County DHIA** – Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at CPDES Hall in Easton. Contact Joe at 233-7133.

**Kings County DHIA** – Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at the Civic Auditorium in Hanford. Contact Ed at 582-2010.

The state association, **California DHIA**, will hold their annual meeting at Hilmar Cheese in Hilmar on Thursday, March 23 from 10 AM until 2 PM. Contact Bill VerBoort at 323-2600.

Following is a schedule of educational meetings for the **California Dairy Quality Assurance Program** that will be held locally. Call me if you are interested in seeing a schedule that includes other parts of the state.

**Environmental Stewardship Shortcourse (three part series for dairy producers):**

March	Times	Location of Class ( <i>no charge</i> )
2 (class #1)	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Stanislaus Ag Center, Service & Crows Landing Roads, Modesto
9 (class #2)	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Stanislaus Ag Center, Service & Crows Landing Roads, Modesto
14 (class #3)	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Stanislaus Ag Center, Service & Crows Landing Roads, Modesto
14 (class #1)	3:00 pm -5:00 pm	Merced Community College Rm # 11, 16570 S. Mercy Springs Rd., Los Banos
15 (class #1)	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Edison Ag Tac, Tulare
15 (class #1)	3:00 pm -5:00 pm	Riverdale Memorial Hall, 3085 W. Mt. Whitney, Riverdale
28(class #2)	12:00 noon -2:00 pm	Merced Community College Rm # 11, 16570 S. Mercy Springs Rd., Los Banos
29 (class #2)	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Edison Ag Tac, Tulare
29 (class #2)	3:00 pm -5:00 pm	Riverdale Memorial Hall, 3085 W. Mt. Whitney, Riverdale
April	Times	Location of Class ( <i>no charge</i> )
11 (class #3)	12:00 noon -2:00 pm	Merced Community College Rm # 11, 16570 S. Mercy Springs Rd., Los Banos
12 (class #3)	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Edison Ag Tac, Tulare
12 (class #3)	3:00 pm -5:00 pm	Riverdale Memorial Hall, 3085 W. Mt. Whitney, Riverdale

Environmental Stewardship Shortcourse classes # 1, 2 and 3 must be completed to receive a certificate of completion. Dairy producers who missed a class during previous sessions can make up the class that they lack. **Tulare** program call Tom Shultz @ 733-6363; **Riverdale** program call Jerry Higginbotham @ 456-7558; **Los Banos/Modesto** program call Jonathan Merriam @ 209-525-6800. There is no fee.

**Allied Industry (condensed version of dairy producer shortcourse for dairy consultants):**

April	Times	Location of Class ( <i>Pre-reg of \$125 Required</i> )
4	12:30 pm -5:00 pm	Stanislaus Ag Center, Service & Crows Landing Roads, Modesto
5	8:00 am - 12:30	Fresno County Farm Bureau, 1274 West Hedges, Fresno

**Allied Industry** meetings will be conducted during a single, **4-½ hour** period, the target audience is: bankers, consultants, nutritionists, agencies, veterinarians, irrigation districts, etc. A minimum of **10 pre-registrations** is required 7 days before class date, to conduct an allied industry meeting. There is a **pre-registration** required of \$125.00 per person. Registration at the door is \$200.00 per person.

**Pre-evaluation Class (for dairy producers who wish to have their dairy evaluated for certification):**

May	Times	Location of Class
<b>2 Pre-evaluation</b>	2:00 pm -4:00 pm	Hilmar Community Center, 20079 Falke Street, Hilmar
<b>3 Pre-evaluation</b>	10:00 am - 12:00 pm	Riverdale Memorial Hall, 3085 W. Mt. Whitney Riverdale
<b>3 Pre-evaluation</b>	2:00 pm -4:00 pm	VMTRC, Tulare

Dairy producers who have completed all three classes of the Environmental Stewardship Shortcourse may proceed to have their dairies “certified” under the voluntary California Dairy Quality Assurance Program. The pre-evaluation class is intended to help producers prepare for the evaluation of their dairy by a CDQAP evaluator.

**Consultant Certification Class (for those wishing to evaluate dairies):**

April	Times	Location of Class ( <i>Pre-reg of \$1000 Required</i> )
6	8:00 am – 5:00 pm	2154 Conference Room – Meyer Hall, UC Davis, Davis, California

**Consultant “Certification”:** A minimum of **10 pre-registrations** is required 7 days before class date to conduct a “Consultant Certification” meeting. Pre-registration is \$1,000.00 per person. Registration at the door is \$1250.00 per person. Consultants also need to complete an Allied Industry Course and successfully pass an exam for certification.

**Pre-registration:** No credit cards. *Checks ONLY - payable to UC Regents – registrants please include meeting date, location, name, address, email, and telephone number on the **pre-registration form**.* Mail check to: *Dr. Deanne Meyer - UC Davis, Department of Animal Science, One Shields Ave, Davis, CA 95616-8521.* Pre-registration must be received a minimum of 7 days before the class you wish to attend. A 48-hour cancellation notice is required for a refund.