

USDA Releases Fifth Report from Dairy 2007 Study

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has released the fifth descriptive report from its Dairy 2007 study. The report, *Dairy 2007 Part V: Changes in Dairy Cattle Health and Management Practices in the United States, 1996–2007*, was produced by APHIS' National Animal Health Monitoring System (NAHMS) and identifies specific changes in the U.S. dairy industry from three NAHMS dairy studies: Dairy 1996, Dairy 2002 and Dairy 2007.

Dairy 2007 is NAHMS' fourth national study of the U.S. dairy industry. The study was designed to provide participants, industry and animal health officials with information concerning the nation's dairy population that will serve as a basis for education and research. Seventeen states participated in the study. These states accounted for 79.5 percent of U.S. dairy operations and 82.5 percent of the nation's dairy cows. Here are a few highlights from the fifth Dairy 2007 descriptive report:

- The percentage of operations fairly knowledgeable about Johne's disease, *Mycoplasma* mastitis and hemorrhagic bowel syndrome (HBS) increased from 2002 to 2007. However, the majority of producers were unfamiliar with heartwater, screw-worm, bluetongue, vesicular stomatitis and HBS.
- Almost all producers in 2002 and 2007 (97.9 and 98.6 percent, respectively) would contact their private veterinarian if they suspected that an animal on their operation had a foreign animal disease.
- Overall, the percentage of operations that used concrete as the predominate flooring type for cattle decreased from 85.8 percent in 1996 to 51.1 percent in 2007.
- The percentage of operations in which milkers wore gloves to milk all cows increased from 32.9 percent in 2002 to 55.2 percent in 2007. The percentage of cows on operations in which milkers wore gloves increased from 48.7 in 2002 to 76.8 percent in 2007.

- For mastitis treatment, the percentage of operations that used cephalosporin increased from 2002 to 2007 (33.3 and 44.5 percent, respectively), while the use of noncephalosporin betalactam and macrolide antibiotics to treat mastitis decreased from 2002 to 2007.
- In 2007, 94.0 percent of operations still dehorned calves. The percentage of large operations (500 or more cows) that dehorned calves decreased from 88.9 percent in 1996 to 64.3 percent in 2007, which might be due to the increase in operations that have calves raised off-site.

Dairy 2007 Part V: Changes in Dairy Cattle Health and Management Practices in the United States, 1996–2007 is available at the NAHMS Web site: <http://nahms.aphis.usda.gov>.

Note to Stakeholders: Stakeholder announcements and other APHIS information are available on the Internet. Go to the APHIS home page at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov> and click on the "Newsroom" button. For additional information on this topic, contact Lindsay Cole at (970) 494-7410 or e-mail: lyndsay.m.cole@aphis.usda.gov.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotope, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.