

Dairy Event spotlight

Johne's control will be the focus of NMR's exhibit at this year's Dairy Event and Livestock Show, NEC on September 6 and 7.

Tools for control

NMR will be demonstrating how to assess the threat of Johne's and implement the best control programmes in their individual herd. Included within this is a biosecurity assessment that establishes the risk of entry or spread of Johne's and the development of the disease within the herd.

NMR is extending its Johne's milk testing services with the introduction of Johne's Essential. Available to milk producers, including those not currently milk recording, this service provides basic quarterly screening.

Since the introduction of the Johne's 30-cow screening initiative in January 2011, more 700 herds have carried out individual milk sample tests for Johne's antibody on groups of 30 cows. Of these almost 70% found at least one positive.

"But the number of affected animals is

generally low," says NMR's managing director Andy Warne. "And in most herds it is possible to follow a screening and control programme so the risk of spread is minimised or hopefully eliminated. We will be talking to producers about the best Johne's control tools to use in their herds."

City breaks to be won

NMR is offering prizes of luxury hampers and two city breaks in its Johne's awareness campaign. Open to all producers, entrants must answer six questions on the tools available to control Johne's disease. The answers can all be found on NMR's website and producers can enter either online or at the Dairy Event and other major events this autumn.

A luxury hamper, worth £100, will go to the name drawn from all correct entries at the Dairy Event. Correct entries will also go into the grand draw at the end of the year with two lucky producers winning a weekend European city break for two including travel and accommodation.

New AFM



Fran Graves

Fran Graves is NMR's new area manager who will look after north Lincolnshire through South Yorkshire and into east Lancashire.

A Lincolnshire girl, Fran is based in the Lincolnshire Wolds and has been a milk recorder in the area on seven farms for the past year. She combined this job with a customer services role for the local council, processing claims for housing and council tax benefit. Fran has also worked on a 600-head beef suckler herd.

June 100 tonners

June saw a new line up of 100-tonne cows. Ranked on lifetime daily yield (LDY) here are the top three. A full list can be found on the NMR website.

- Rachel 5 from West Sussex herd D Goodwin and Son, Lindfield, Haywards Heath, produced 100,922kg of milk in seven lactations and has a LDY of 29.25kg.
- Winfarthing Jane from E S Cole and Son's herd, based in Diss in Norfolk, produced 112,192kg of milk in nine lactations and has a LDY of 28.77kg.
- Convincer 211 from the Gibb's herd, Eachwick, Dalton, Newcastle upon Tyne, produced 100,502kg of milk in six lactations and has a LDY of 28.33kg.

Trio of winners

Three home-bred cows from NMR recorded herds took top awards at the Royal Welsh Show this summer.

Overall Best Dairy Cow & Supreme Dairy Champion went to Castellhyfryd Spirte Rosina. Bred and exhibited by Simon and Sian Davies of the Brynhyfryd herd, Hebron, Whitland, Carmarthenshire.

The RWAS Production Inspection Class

was won by Feithy Margaret 89 EX92 (2) from ER and ME Jones and Sons herd from Cilfeithy Uchaf, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire.

John Williams from Cardigan, Ceredigion took first prize in the NMR/RWAS Lifetime Daily Yield Competition with their cow Troedyrhiw Atomic Gwenda VG 87 who had a value of 27.96kg a day.

Castellhyfryd Spirte Rosina with Simon Davies, NMR's Jonathan Davies (left) and NMR board member Bryan Thomas (right)



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