

A. BASIC DAIRY FARM INFORMATION

A.1. Number of dairy cattle typically on your farm:

A.1.1. Number of lactating cows (cows milking):

A.1.2. Number of dry cows:

A.1.3. Number of replacement heifers (first day of age to day of first calving):

A.1.4. Number of bulls for natural service:

A.2. Milk production on your farm:

A.2.1. What is the rolling herd average (RHA) for your herd? : lb/cow per year

A.2.2. What is the typical daily milk shipped for your herd? : lb/cow per day

A.3. Describe the **primary manager** of the dairy farm:

A.3.1. Gender: Male; Female

A.3.2. Age: years

A.3.3. Education: high school or less; graduated with 2-year degree or technical school;
 graduated from college with BS or higher.

A.4. Who performs the role of **nutritionist** for your dairy farm (**check all that apply**):

Yourself or other family members;

Feed company representative;

Private consulting nutritionist;

Veterinarian; Other:

A.5. Do you consider your farm to be managed predominantly as **pasture-based system** during the grazing season?

YES; NO.

A.6. Is your farm **certified organic** (or in the certification process)?

YES; NO.

A.7. Identify your primary **housing facility and groups for lactating cows**:

A.7.1 100% of milking cows in tie-stall barn or stanchion barn: **SKIP → to question A.8.;**

A.7.2 0% of cows in tie-stall barn or stanchion barn; Other percentage (%):

A.7.3 Milking cows housed in groups:

A.7.3.1. Number of groups, pens, or strings:

A.7.3.2. Type of group housing facility (**check all that apply**):

Free stall barn; Shade structure; Open lot (not pasture);

Pasture during grazing season; Bedded pack pen under roof;

Compost bedded pen under roof; None; Other:

A.8. Physical Grouping of Lactating Cows. Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about your management criteria for grouping lactating cows. In each row, circle one number:

I group lactating cows based on:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Need to keep pens full of cows	1	2	3	4	5
Need to have a fresh cow group	1	2	3	4	5
Days in milk (stage of lactation)	1	2	3	4	5
Need to have a first lactation heifer group	1	2	3	4	5
Milk production level	1	2	3	4	5
Body condition (body fatness)	1	2	3	4	5
Health (mastitis, SCC, sick, lame, etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Reproduction (breeding, pregnant, do not breed)	1	2	3	4	5
I do not believe differentiating groups is worth the effort	1	2	3	4	5
Other: <input type="text"/>	1	2	3	4	5

B. FEEDING & RATIONS FOR LACTATING COWS

B.1. Do you **feed different rations** to different groups of lactating (milking) cows?

- YES, there are 2 or more different rations; YES, there are multiple rations because cows are fed some concentrates on an individual basis; NO, all cows are fed the same ration: **SKIP → to question B.3.**

B.2. Feeding Groups of Lactating Cows. Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding grouping of lactating cows for feeding purposes. In each row, circle one number:

I feed different rations based on:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Fresh vs. all other lactating cows	1	2	3	4	5
Stage of lactation for non-fresh cows	1	2	3	4	5
Parity (lactation number)	1	2	3	4	5
Milk production level	1	2	3	4	5
Body condition (body fatness)	1	2	3	4	5
Health related issues	1	2	3	4	5
Reproductive status (pregnant vs. open)	1	2	3	4	5
I do not believe that more than one ration is needed	1	2	3	4	5
I do not feed different rations due to constraints (B.4 below)	1	2	3	4	5
Other: <input style="width: 300px;" type="text"/>	1	2	3	4	5

B.3. Choose system that is closest to your **feeding system for lactating cows (and check all that apply):**

- One or more **total mixed ration(s)** (TMR; all feeds for a given ration mixed together and fed to cows)
- Partial mixed ration (some forages and concentrates mixed, **but additional feed provided another way**):
- Additional concentrates fed in computer feeder
 - Additional concentrates fed in robotic milking system
 - Additional concentrates fed in milking parlor
 - Additional concentrates top-dressed in tie-stall/stanchion milking barn
 - Additional concentrates top-dressed at group feed bunk on top of partial mixed ration
 - Additional forage fed; describe:
 - Other:
- Forage and concentrate each **delivered separately** (no mixing):
- Concentrates fed in computer feeder; Concentrates fed in robotic milking system;
 - Concentrates fed in milking parlor; Concentrates top-dressed at group feed bunk;
 - Concentrates top-dressed in tie-stall/stanchion milking barn; Other:

B.4. Constraints to Feeding Groups of Lactating Cows. Indicate your level of agreement with the following statements regarding constraints to more feeding groups for your lactating cows. In each row, circle one number:

Constraints to more rations to lactating cows:	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Current farm facilities do not allow it	1	2	3	4	5
Not enough labor or personnel to handle it	1	2	3	4	5
Desire to keep it simple	1	2	3	4	5
Milk drops when cows are moved to different groups	1	2	3	4	5
Conflicts with grouping for reproductive purposes	1	2	3	4	5
Nutritionist does not want to	1	2	3	4	5
I do not believe more than one feeding group is needed	1	2	3	4	5
Other: <input style="width: 300px;" type="text"/>	1	2	3	4	5

B.5. Would you consider being a demonstration farm for implementation of grouping to increase feed efficiency? YES, NO

B.6. Would you like to provide your (optional)? Name:
 Phone: Email: