Worksheet 11: Cow Health Disorders and Dry Cow Evaluation

Cow-related Factors

1. Is the dry period length near the ideal of 60 days?
   - % less than 40 days dry
   - % 40-60 days dry
   - % more than 70 days dry

2. Do cows have the proper body condition scores?
   - BCS 3.5 at dry off
     - Yes
     - No
   - BCS 3.5 at calving
     - Yes
     - No
   - Average BCS of dry cows is
   - % dry cows BCS more than 4.0
   - % dry cows BCS less than 3.0

3. Are the health disorders around and after calving within tolerable limits?
   Incidence, duration of effects and cost of health disorders:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>LIR mean %</th>
<th>LIR range %</th>
<th>Duration of effect (days)</th>
<th>Cost ($/case)</th>
<th>Cases/yr Your Farm</th>
<th>Estimated cost above “normal” LIR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dystocia (1st lact)</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>28.53</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dystocia (2nd + lact)</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained placenta</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>1.3 - 39</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>285.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk fever</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>3 - 22</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>335.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Displaced abomasum</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>0.3 - 6.3</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>340.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ketosis</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>1.3 - 18.3</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>145.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metritis</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>2 - 37</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mastitis</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>1.7 - 54.6</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>200.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cystic ovaries</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>1 - 16</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>39.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardware disease</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lameness</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>1.8 - 30</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>302.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Estimated cost above “normal” LIR = \[
\text{Your herd incidence \%} - \text{“Normal” incidence \%} \times \frac{\text{No. cows in herd}}{\text{Cost/case}}
\]

Your herd incidence \% = \[
\frac{\text{# cases}}{\text{# cows calving}} \times 100
\]
4. Are “downer” cows less than 2%? ______________

5. How many calves are born dead? ______________
   Heifers <12%; Cows <6% (this will depend on the number of dystocias)

6. Is physical injury less than 2%? ______________

7. Is cow mortality less than 3%? ______________

Management-related Factors

Does your dry cow health program include:

- A careful dry-off procedure including dry cow therapy?
  - Yes (please describe dry-off procedure): ____________________________________________
  - No

- A vaccination program designed for your farm with the help of your herd veterinarian?
  - Yes (please describe vaccination program): ________________________________________
  - No

- Routine hoof trimming?
  - Yes (please describe frequency and criteria for trimming cows): _________________
  - No

- Control of external (lice, flies, etc.) and internal (worms) parasites?
  - Yes (please describe your parasite control program): _____________________________
  - No

- Two groups (far-off and close-up) of dry cows with appropriate diets?
  - Yes
  - No
  - How long do your close-up cows have access to the close-up transition cow diet? ____________ (2-3 wks desirable)

- A complete herd health record system where all diagnosis and treatments are recorded?
  - Yes (please describe type of record system you use): _____________________________
  - No

See The 100-Day Contract Dairy Wellness Plan (Pharmacia Animal Health) on-line at: http://www.100daycontract.com