

Digital innovations to manage youngstock and optimise milking herds

Livestock nutrition and feed efficiency are strongly linked to proper farm management and correct conditions for animal health. Calf and heifer management is a continuous process that requires diligence, critical analysis, troubleshooting and innovative thinking.

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This can be a lot to ask of a busy and over-taxed producer and that is where digital tools can help.

A variety of apps for computer and mobile devices are currently available, ranging from feed ration recommendations to risk analysis and treatments.

Evaluate and monitor farm efficiency for youngstock performance

Producers are interested in advice to improve their farm management approach to be more efficient and effective.

With a digital app like InMyFarm Audit, they can monitor numerous aspects for heifer production, including:

- Close-up management.
- Calving management and placement.
- Sanitary conditions.

The InMyFarm Audit App.



- Milk replacer type and distribution methods.

- Animal housing regarding their age.

Tracking a variety of data points is easier with a digital tool that can regularly measure performance indicators and map how an action plan evolves along key metrics.

Additionally, apps can help producers outline specific growth objectives and calculate optimal feed rations best suited for dairy cows at all life stages.

Smart farming tools can provide a clear overview using simulations and information graphics that are customised for a specific scenario.

Improve milking herd performance with smart tools

Producers can also use digital apps to evaluate the performance of lactating cows from the end of the dry period to the first three months of lactation.

Auditing tools that measure feeding strategy, animal body condition, farm management and livestock buildings can be very useful. For example, Transi-Up assesses farm performance, compares it with reference data and supplies tailored action plans that can improve productivity.

Additionally, a feed management app can help balance and personalise diets for far-off, up-close and early lactation stages for milking cows.

Digital tools can also assess the efficiency of diet recommendations for milking herds performance. This type of app is extremely helpful for nutritional technicians and consultants to analyse feed margins and feed potential, serving to enrich discussions of feed recommendations for producers.

Advances in digital agriculture

Within the highly competitive environment of animal production, farmers are faced with the pressing need to adapt to new technologies. Development of smart farming tools that improve efficiencies and support sustainability goals is flourishing around the world.

Partners like ADM have a producer's best interests in mind as they aid in enhancing the quality, productivity and profitability of their customers' dairy farms.

Providing access to decision-making tools and science-based nutritional solutions is one way to fulfil that obligation. ■

To learn more about the smart tools that can help achieve your goals visit adm.com