



**National DHI Program  
Uniform Operating  
Procedures**

# **Uniform Operating Procedures**

- **Part of Council on Dairy Cattle Breeding (CDCB) Guidelines**
- **Comprised of 2 Documents:**
  - **Code of Ethics**
  - **Uniform Data Collection Procedures**
- **Minimum Standards for DHIA Producers and Field Technicians**

# Uniform Operating Procedures

- **CDCB Standards require signed Membership Agreements agreeing to comply with:**
  - **Code of Ethics**
  - **Uniform Data Collection Procedures**
  - **CDCB Standards**
  - **Local DHIA Policies & Guidelines**

# Code of Ethics

- **Guidelines for production, collection, and distribution of DHIA data for EVERYONE involved**
- **Addresses unethical practices**
  - Not cooperating with technician
  - Intentionally providing inaccurate data
  - Family or financial interest in cows
- **Violators are subject to action by the injured party**

# **Uniform Data Collection Procedures**

- **Purpose to provide framework for uniform and accurate record system for:**
  - **Herd management**
  - **Research & education - including genetic evaluations & Bull Proofs**
  - **Promotion and sale of dairy animals**

# Responsibility for Compliance

- **DHIA organizations at all levels**
- **Field Technicians**
  - **Certified DHIA Testing requires a Certified Field Supervisor in the Barn**
    - **Non-Certified persons can help Certified Testers**
- **Herd owners**
  - **Herds MUST follow same routine on test-day as any other day of the month.**
- **Employees of above**

# Provides Definitions

- Dairy cows
- Dairy herds
- Test Programs
- Test Day
- DHI Technician
- DHIA Service Affiliate
- DHIA Service Provider
- Field Service
- Laboratory
- DRPC
- Meter Center

# **Standardizes Collection of Data**

- **Requires same milking schedule on Test Day – Start & Stop times recorded**
- **Defines Supervised testing plans**
- **Partially Supervised or Owner Sampler**
- **Supervised Electronic Meter tests**
- **Owner Sampler Electronic Meter tests**



# **Defines Standard Equipment**

- **DHIA Owned Meters**
- **Farm Owned Electronic Meters**
- **Meter Calibration Requirements**
- **Defines Accuracy Requirements**
  - **ID Systems & Meters**

# Defines Recording Programs

- **DHI-Conventional-Supervised**
- **DHI-AP-Supervised**
- **DHI-APCS-Supervised**
- **DHI-MO & DHI-MO-AP-Supervised**
- **Other Recording Programs**

# Defines Record Calculation

- **Time Interval Method (TIM)**
  - Average weights of two tests time days in interval
- **Best Prediction Method (BPM)**
  - Sophisticated computer model

# Requires Identification

- **Permanent ID - Including American ID and RFID tags**
- **Visible and legible ID required**
- **Change of ID after 2nd test results in permanent marking**

# **Specifies Bulk Tank Data**

- **Requires 3 days Prior Shipments**
- **Best calculation of tank weights if not reporting complete days**
- **If not available, note as such**
  - **Signed statement required if tank weights are not available**
- **Used as verification of accuracy**

# Defines Cow “Stuff”

- **Dry cows**
- **Cows leaving**
- **Cows entering**
- **Sick/injured**
- **Abortions/premies**
- **Cows calving w/o going dry**
- **Prepartum Milking**
- **Cows milked more than 2X**

# Handles Missing Milk Weights

- **First Test Date - 75 DIM for genetic evaluation purposes**
- **Missing weights during lactation**
- **New cows entering the herd**
- **Testers NEVER estimate milk weights – Code cows MISSED**

# Defines Standard Calculations

- Days carried calf
- Days open
- Gestation days
- Too fresh to test
- Days dry
- Calving interval
- Days in milk



# Standardizes Calculations

- **305 day milk, ME, Herdmate Comparisons, Relative Value, and etc.**
- **Adjustment to 24 hour Day**
  - Variable Milking Schedules (2X/3X Splits)
  - AM/PM Factors

# Handles Misc. & Other Items

- **Production Reports**
- **Yearly Averages**
- **Transfer of Records**
- **Robotic Milking**
- **Data Collection Ratings**

# Defines Disclosure Policy

- **Herd Profile Data**
- **Open Disclosure – Producer Data**
- **Limited Disclosure**
- **No Disclosure**
- **Allows Privacy Codes**

# National DHI Program Uniform Operating Procedures

*Document that defines the guidelines  
for conduct and uniform procedures  
for data collection*