

# Herd Management Score – 2009



05

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Ontario Sample Herd  
 CanWest DHI  
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P12

Management Centre	Provincial Median	Your Herd Value	Maximum Possible Score	Your Herd Score
Milk Value – Holstein	\$5679	\$6296	500	397
Udder Health	2.9	2.8	150	92
Age At First Calving	26.7	24.3	100	95
Calving Interval	14.1	13.5	50	48
Longevity	39.1%	32.8%	100	23
Herd Efficiency	85.7%	85.4%	100	100
			<b>Total Score</b>	<b>755</b>

**Your herd rank is 54 amongst 284 herds in Wellington.**

This DHI Herd Management Score report compares your herd's previous year results in six different management areas to the median provincial herd (middle herd).

Your herd score is calculated by multiplying the maximum score of the management centre by the relative position of your herd as compared to that of all the herds enrolled on a DHI program. The herd scores for these management centres are added up to give your herd a total score which you can compare from year to year.

## Herd Management Score

The Herd Management Score is based on the following six management centres:

### **Milk Value**

Average dollar value of milk, fat and protein for actual production of all of the cows in the herd using current milk and component values. The average Annual Milk Value, reported in the Production Averages section of the Herd Management Report, is used in the calculation of Herd Management Score.

Milk Value per cow is a measure of gross revenue from the dairy herd.

### **Udder Health (Somatic Cell Count – Linear Score)**

Average Linear Score (LS) for Somatic Cell Count (SCC) for your herd over the target year. The average LS for the herd from all SCC tests during the calendar year, as reported on the DHI SCC Report is used in the calculation of Herd Management Score.

SCC–LS measures the potential prevalence of clinical and sub–clinical mastitis. Each whole number rise in LS corresponds to a doubling of actual SCC. Mastitis leads to decreased milk production and decreased revenue. (Note: At least one SCC test must have been done for a herd to receive a score for Udder Health)

### **Age at 1st Calving**

Average age (expressed in months) of all animals with valid birth and calving dates that started their first lactation in the herd during the target year. The number used in the Herd Management Score calculation is reported in the Management Measures section of the Herd Management Report (Monitor version).

Age at 1st Calving is a measure of heifer management, growth and reproduction in the herd. Calving heifers earlier (younger) decreases heifer–raising expenses.

### **Calving Interval**

Average number of months between calvings for animals in their second or greater lactation that calved in the herd during the target year. The number used in the calculation of Herd Management Score is reported in the Management Measures section of the Herd Management Report (Monitor version).

Calving Interval is a measure of reproductive management, heat detection and herd fertility. A shorter calving interval allows the herd to achieve higher peak production, increasing production and revenue.

### **Longevity (% of Herd in 3+ lactation)**

Annual average percentage of cows in the herd on test day that are in their third or greater lactation. The number used in the calculation of Herd Management Score is reported in the Management Measures section of the Herd Management Report (Monitor version).

Longevity is a measure of good management in regards to cow comfort, herd health, and keeping cows "problem free." Increased longevity allows for decreased animal replacement costs and excess animals to sell as replacements, providing increased revenue.

### **Herd Efficiency (% of Herd in Milk)**

Average annual percentage of cows in the herd on test day that are milking (not dry). The number used in the calculation of Herd Management Score is not directly reported on Herd Reports but can be calculated from the Cows column in the Test Day Summary section of the Herd Management Report.

Herd Efficiency is an optimal measure where no extreme (high or low) is desirable. Herd Efficiency is a measure of the balance between the maximum Days in Milk and an adequate Dry Period and Calving Interval. Optimal efficiency will provide cows with a properly balanced lactation and will increase daily milk output from the herd.

**If you have questions, or would like to receive further details on how the Herd Management Score is calculated, please contact the DHI Customer Service Desk at 1 800 549 4373.**