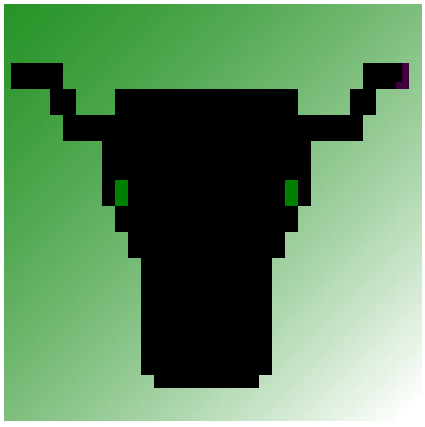
DAIRY DATA FOR WINDOWS

USER MANUAL



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Introduction

Dairy Data for Windows

Most dairy Herd Health Programmes have been written by computer programmers who have had no intimate connection with dairy cows or their management. Largely they have been modifications of the original programme developed by the University of Melbourne which was devised when Victorian dairyfarmers had milk contracts and milked cows all year round. This is no longer the situation. Many have become too complicated for farmers, and even veterinarians, to comprehend fully. Moreover, data entry has become a nightmare.

For these, and a variety of other reasons, many vets have discontinued full herd health programmes in favour of retrospective Mating analyses. We believe today's dairyfarmer, attempting to handle larger herds with less labour, is crying out for simple, cost effective programmes which assist him to be most efficient in the areas of herd reproduction, milk quality, disease control, nutrition and management. His veterinarian is best equipped to help him in all these areas.

Our aim has been to produce a comprehensive, computerised dairy herd health programme that:

(a) allows for rapid, simple data entry

(b) (b) produces simple, concise & meaningful reports to the farmer

(c) allows simple but in depth analyses for the vet

(d) allows once only data entry by the farmer

(e) records all relevant farm information in one source

(f) promotes a close relationship between vet & farmer

(g) can be run by a farmer alone if necessary

David is a veterinarian who has worked in dairy practise for 11 years and is a computer programmer - a skill which began as a hobby. I have been involved in computerised dairy herd health programmes as a vet for 25 years. Together we have developed Dairy Data for Windows. We believe we have achieved our aims.

Mike Hamblin BVSc & David Beggs BVSc MVS

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Warrnambool Animal Production Services / Warrnambool Veterinary Clinic

ELECTRONIC END USER LICENSE AGREEMENT For Dairy Data for Windows

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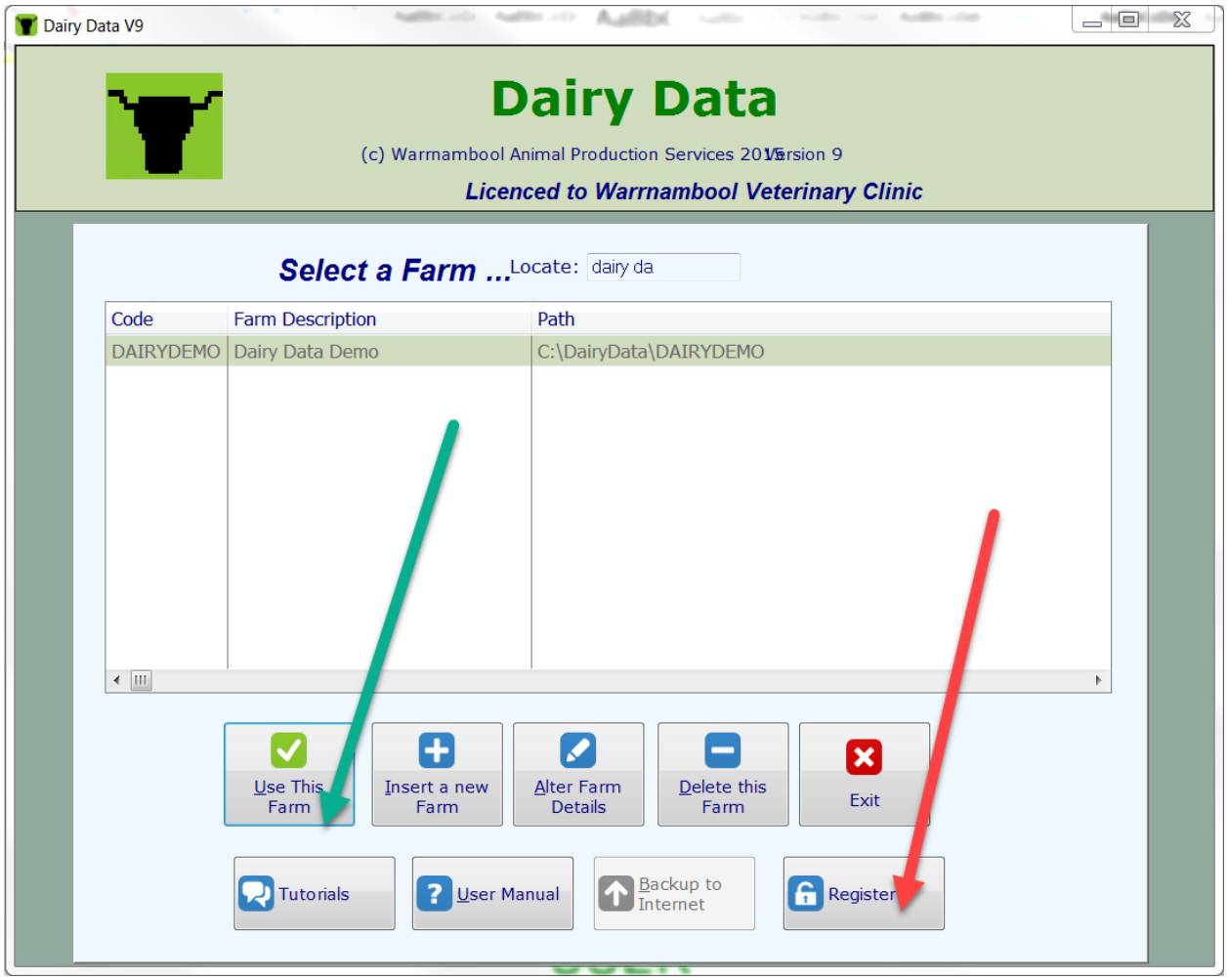
Select a Data Source

This is the first screen you see when you run Dairy Data for Windows.

Dairy Data for Windows can contain data for more than one farm.

This Screen allows you to select which farm you will use. You can also Add, Edit, or Delete farms.

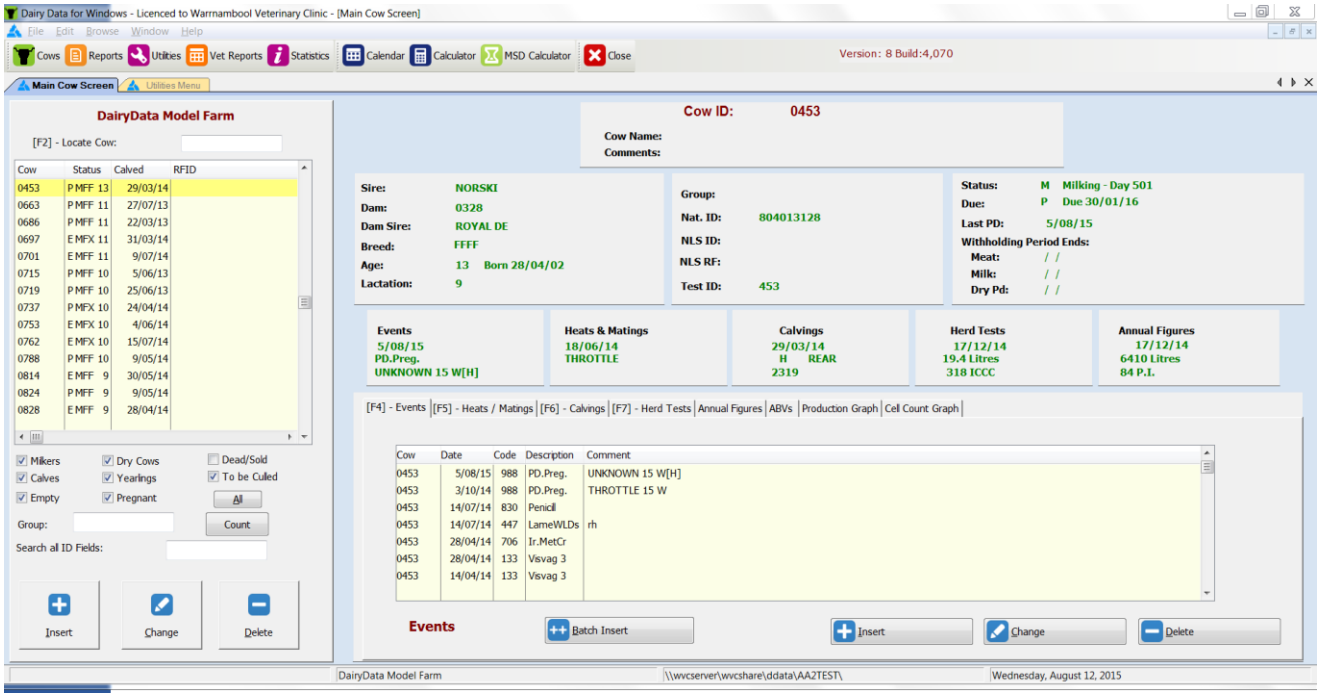
You can also Register Dairy Data from here.



Simply Highlight the farm you want and click on the appropriate button.

Cow File Maintenance

This is the Main Cow Screen. You can enter and view Information about COWS in your herd.



All Cows in the herd are listed in the box on the left. You can choose to display only cows with a certain status by clicking the check boxes below the list of cows.

To Insert a new cow, edit a cow's details or delete a cow, click on the buttons below the list of cows.

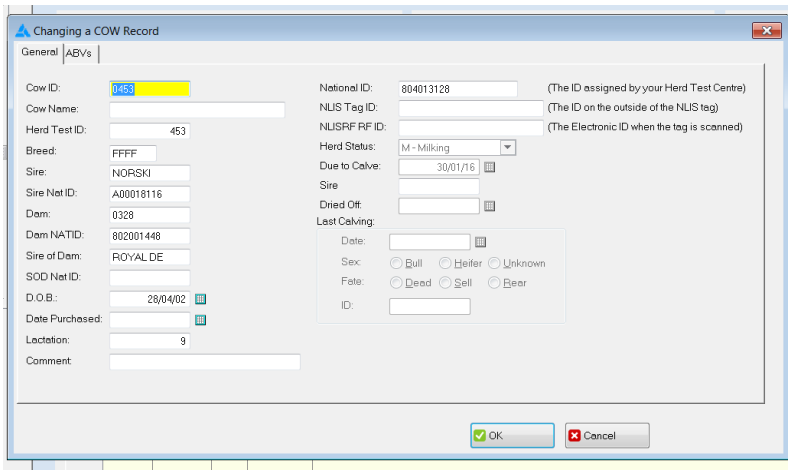
You can also use Keyboard Shortcuts. If you Press F2, the cow list will become highlighted. You can then press the Insert key to add a cow, the Enter key to edit a cow, or the delete key to delete a cow.

The Right Side of the screen shows all the details for the cow which is highlighted on the Left Side of the Screen.

From here you can view and update Events, Heats/Matings, Calvings and Herd Tests for the current cow. Simply click on the appropriate tab, or press the Keyboard Shortcut key. For example, pressing F5 will bring up the Heats & Matings.

Cow Records

To update a cow record click the Change buttons below the list of cows on the Main Cow Screen.

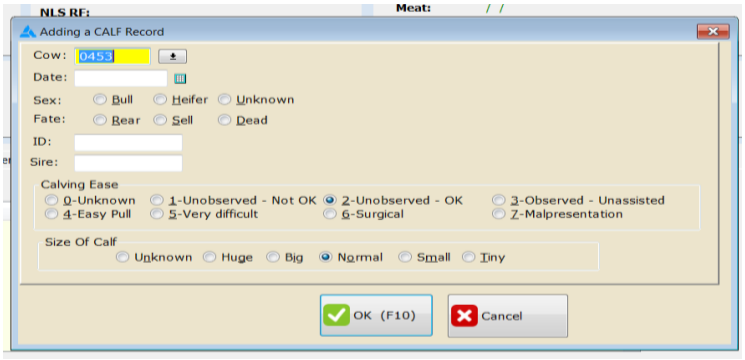


To change a cow's Herd Status or Pregnancy Status, you need to enter a Calving, an Event, or Pregnancy Testing information.

When adding a new cow, you can specify a calving date and a Dry Off Date. Dairy Data will automatically add the appropriate Calving or Event information.

Calvings

To add Calvings, click the Insert buttons below the list of Calvings.



Enter the Details about calvings from here. If a cow had Twins, just enter 2 calvings of the same date.

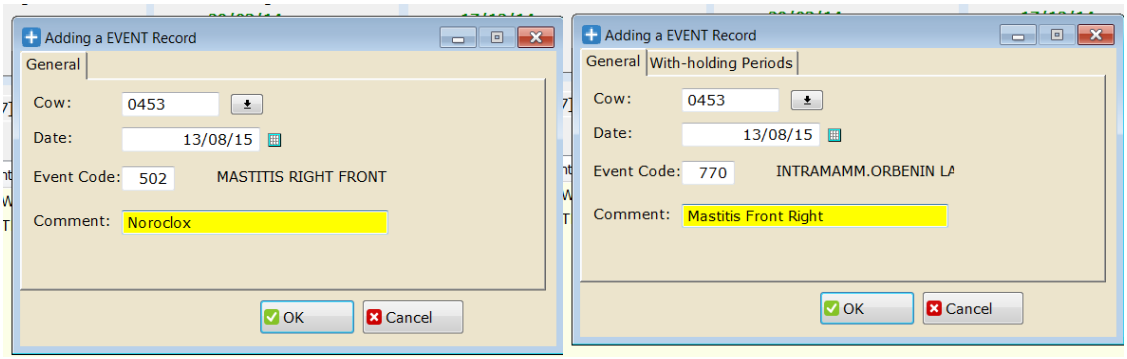
When rearing Heifers – Enter the heifer ID here and this will add her to your herd with the Dam and Sire details.

When you enter a calving, Dairy Data changes the Cow's Herd Status to Milking, and her Pregnancy Status to Empty.

Verify Data after adding Calvings.

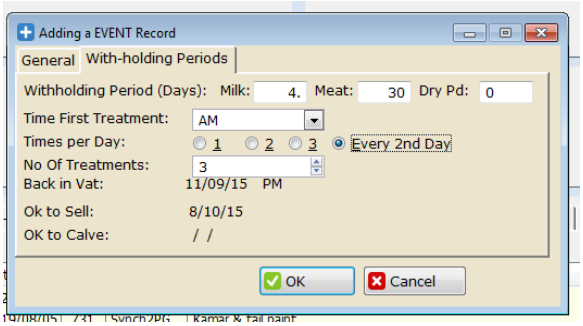
Events

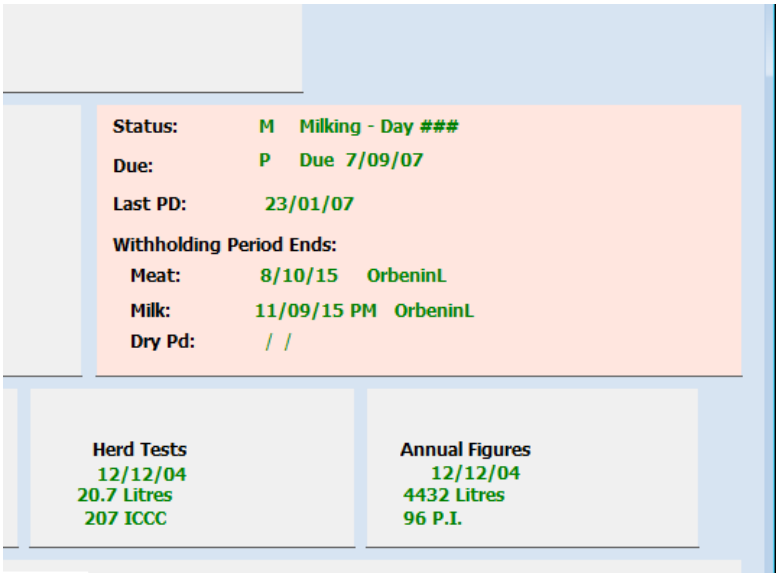
To insert Events, click the button below the list of Events.



Enter Events and treatment from this screen.

Dairy Data will make appropriate changes to the Cow's Herd Status, Pregnancy Status and Withholding Period for treatments that have a with-hold automatically.

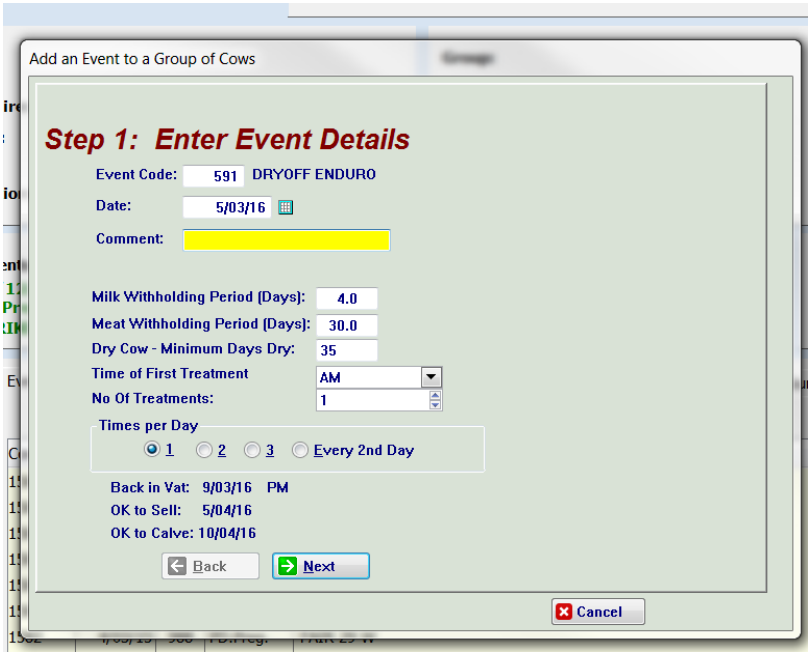




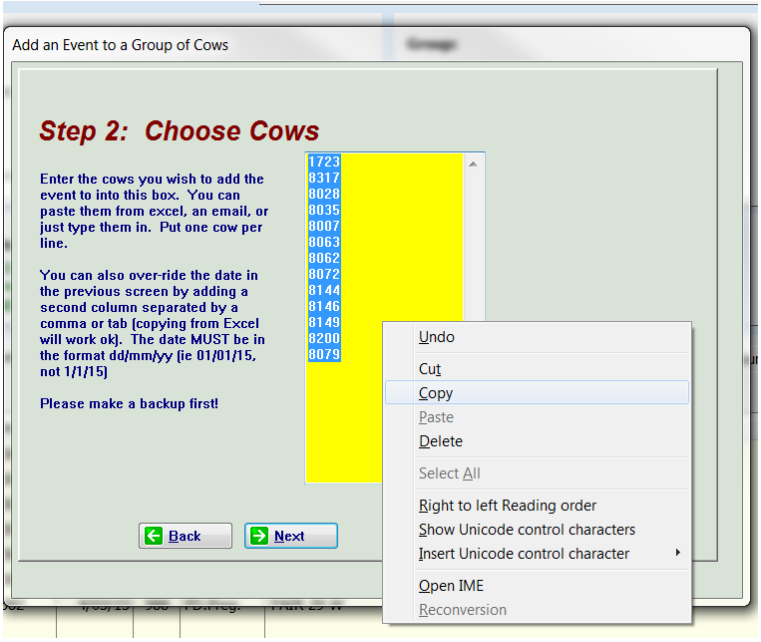
See Date Entry for information about entering Dates.

Batch Insert

To add the same event to many cows.
Enter Event code and date of event.
Next



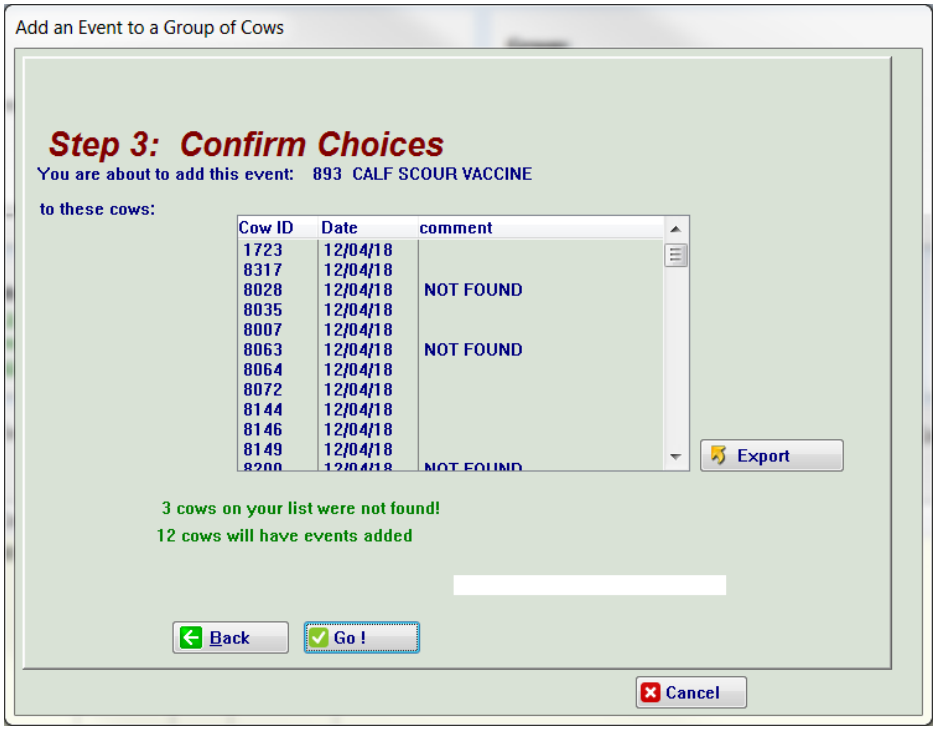
Enter the cow number press Control Enter (Ctrl and Enter together) to go to the next line. (if you have more than 1 event for the same lot of cows ie Dry cow, Teat Seal and Vaccinations. Highlight the cows, Right mouse click and copy. Then paste Ctrl V list into next batch insert.)



If you have typed a number incorrectly or a cow is not on the system it will show in the confirm screen.

cows on your list were not found!

cows will have events added



You can export to spreadsheet to see which cows were not found.

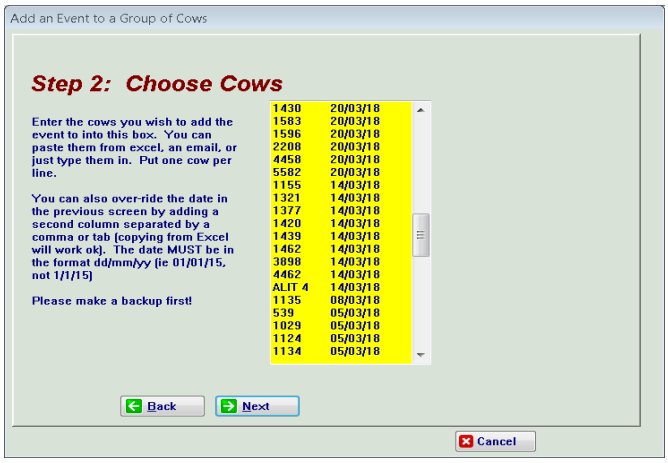
Entering Data From a Spreadsheet

When data has been entered into a spreadsheet on multiple dates this can be entered into Dairy Data in 1 go.

From your spreadsheet you need COW ID and Date of event ie dry off dates.

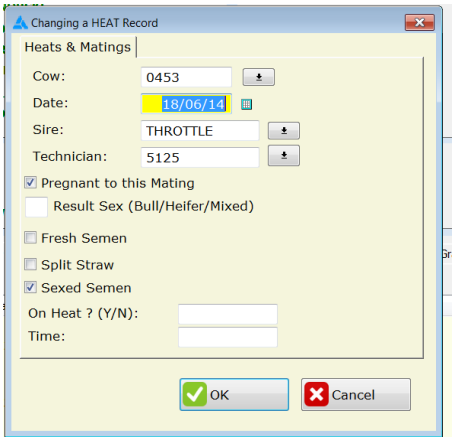
3916	03/04/18
4415	03/04/18
4454	03/04/18
4471	03/04/18
723	20/03/18
1039	20/03/18
1119	20/03/18
1204	20/03/18
1430	20/03/18
1583	20/03/18
1596	20/03/18
2208	20/03/18
4458	20/03/18
5582	20/03/18
1155	14/03/18
1321	14/03/18
1377	14/03/18
1420	14/03/18
1439	14/03/18
1462	14/03/18
3898	14/03/18
4462	14/03/18
ALIT 4	14/03/18
1135	08/03/18

Open Batch insert – Enter event code, set date as today.
Paste your list from spreadsheet (both columns cow id and date). This will enter the event at the date that it was done.



Heats & Matings

To update Heats or Matings, click the buttons below the list of Heats & Matings

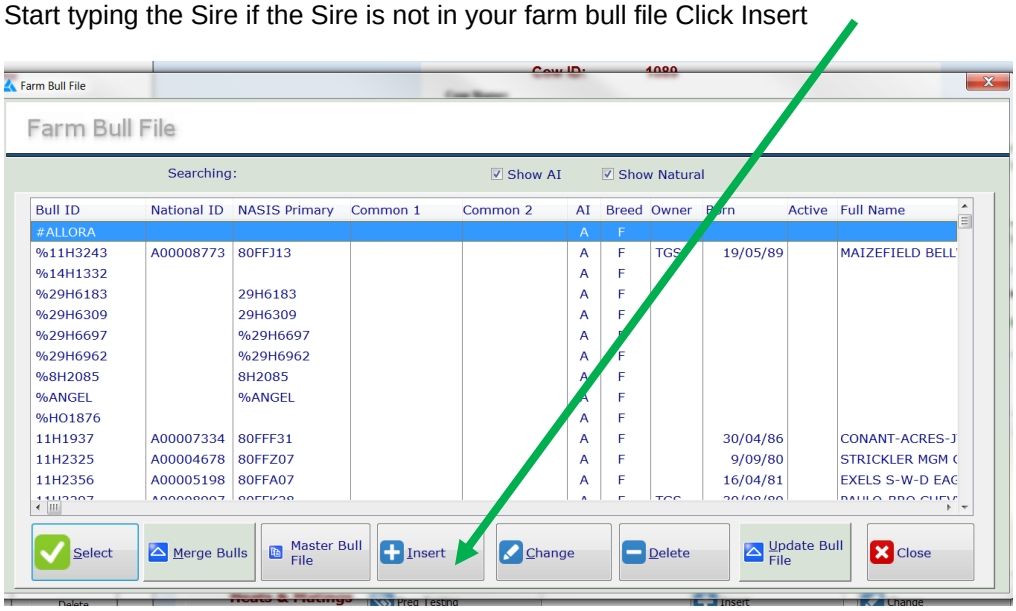


Enter information about a Heat or Mating.

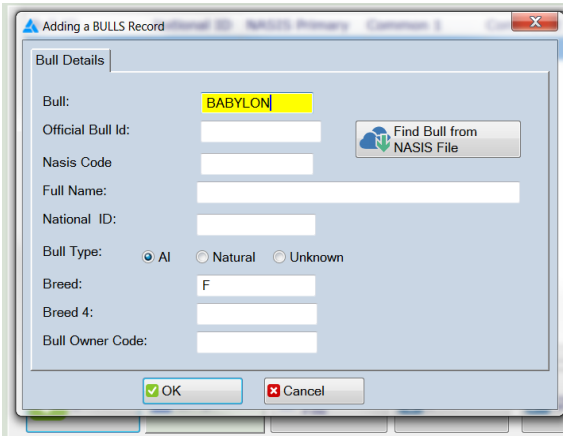
For Heats, use the Sire "H"

See Date Entry for information about entering Dates.

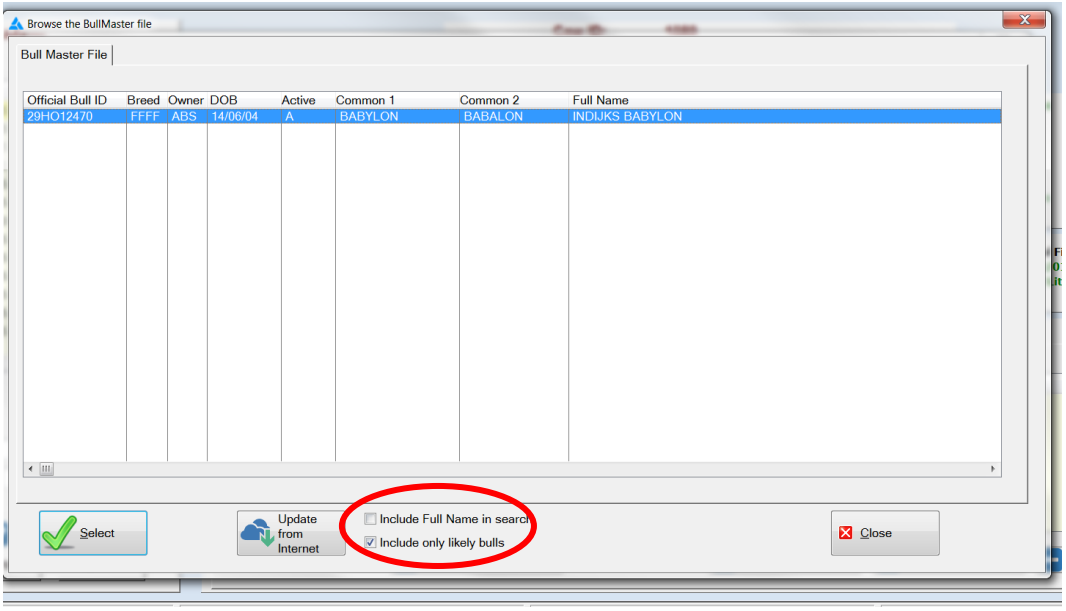
Start typing the Sire if the Sire is not in your farm bull file Click Insert



Type the Bull name or enter the NASIS code then click “Find Bull from NASIS file”



All likely bulls will be listed. Click Select then OK. The bull has now been added to your Farm Bull File.



If the bull is not listed here uncheck Include only likely bulls and click Include Full Name in search then type the bulls name again.

Pregnancy Diagnosis

Dairy Data assumes that all cows are empty unless you enter pregnancy diagnosis information. Use the Preg Testing Report to print out the list of cows which need Preg Testing.

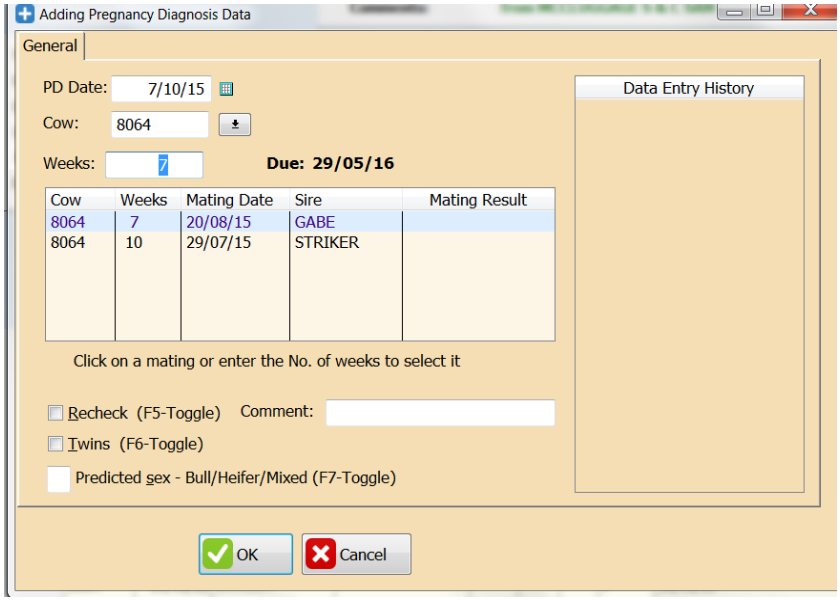
To enter Preg Testing information, Go to the Cow Screen and press the F5 key or click on the Heats & Matings Tab. Then click on the Preg Testing Button.

1. Enter the date of the Preg Test.

2. Enter the Cow number.

Dairy Data brings up the list of all entered Matings for this cow to the Preg Test Date.

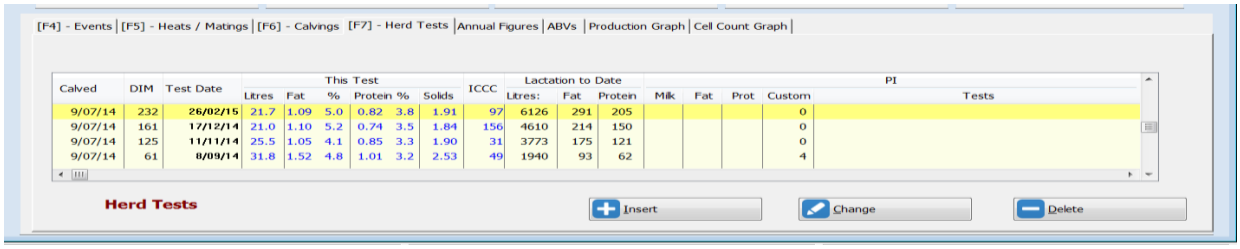
3. Enter the correct number of weeks pregnant. Enter 0 weeks if the cow is Empty. Continue through the preg test list. If there is no Mating listed for the weeks Pregnant enter the correct weeks, press Enter and you will be asked if you would like to create a Mating – Click yes. This will then be listed as unknown with a due date. You can press Ctrl and Enter to accept the data.



4. If you want to Recheck the Pregnancy, click Recheck or F5. Twins present at Preg Test F6 and if you have had the cow Sexed at Preg Test B – Bull, H – Heifer or M – Mixed or F7.

Update a Herd Test Record

Although most times you will import Herd Test records from a file rather than type them in, you can manually type the information, or make corrections.



Event Codes - Choosing an Event

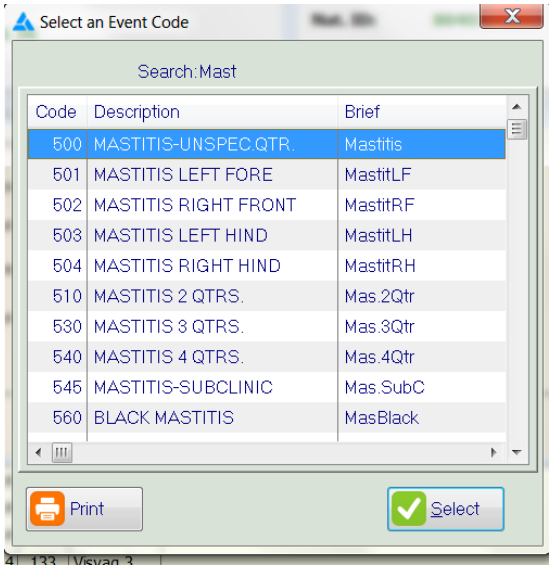
Some Data Entry screens require you to select an Event Code.

Events in Dairy Data all have a 3 digit Event Code.

1. You will notice that when you begin to enter the Event Code, the nearest matching event is displayed in blue immediately after the cursor. To select this Event at any time, press Enter or Tab.

2. Whilst entering an event Code, you can use the Up or Down arrow keys to scroll through the Events. Press Enter or Tab when the Event you want appears.

3. You can also search for an event by Name or Description. If you press the Space Bar, enter a Code or start typing the Description, the list of Event Codes appears – You can also print a full list of the codes from here.



If you incorrectly enter an event i.e. sold, delete this event then Verify Data this will bring the cow back alive.

Data Entry - Selecting a Cow

Many Data Entry screens require you to select a Cow. There are several quick ways to do this in Dairy Data.

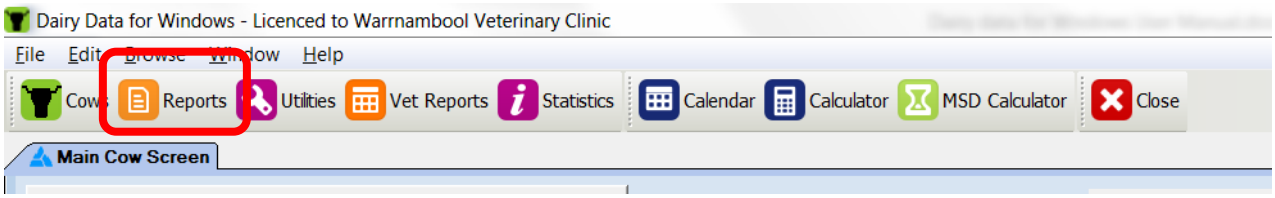
1. You will notice that when you begin to enter the Cow's ID, the nearest matching cow is displayed in blue immediately after the cursor. To select this cow at any time, press Enter or Tab.

2. Whilst entering a cow ID, you can use the Up or Down arrow keys to scroll through the cows in ID order.

3. If you press the Space Bar, enter a cow ID that is not on file, or click the button next to the Cow Entry Field, a list of available cows in your herd will appear and you can choose the cow you want from this list.

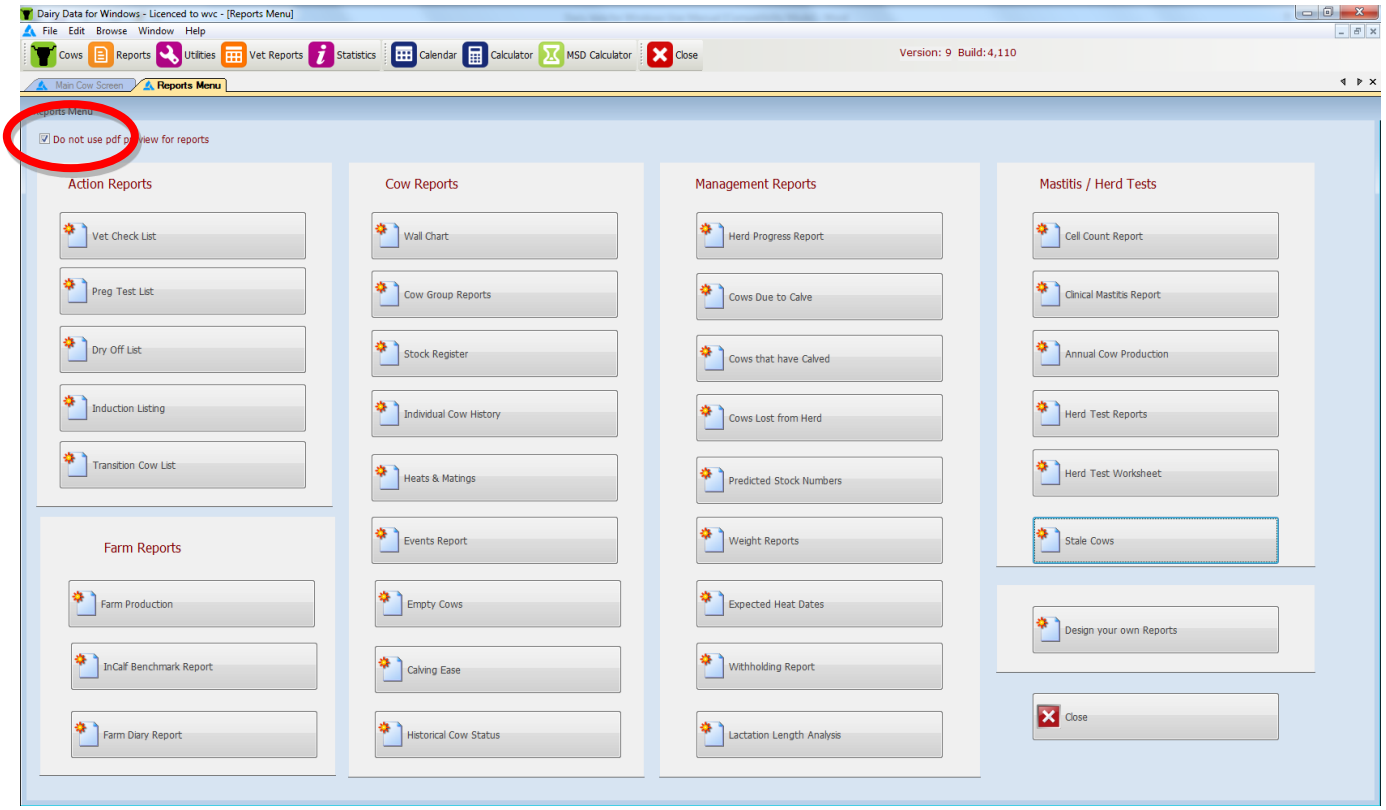
Reports Menu

To see the Reports Menu, click on the Reports button on the Toolbar at the top of the screen.



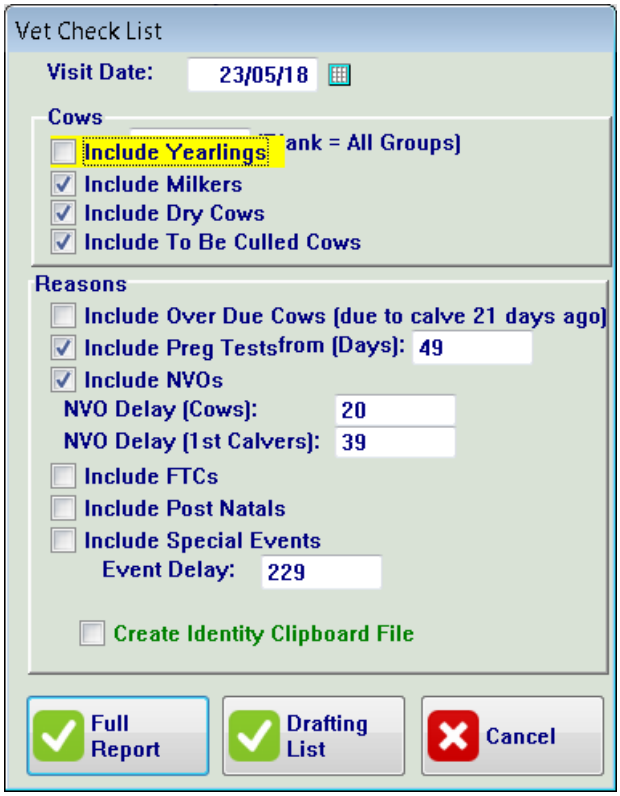
To print or view a report, click on the appropriate button. Depending on the report, you will be presented with a series of options to customise your report.

Make sure that you have ticked Do Not use pdf viewer for reports.



Reports - Vet Check List

Use this report to generate lists of cows for routine Herd Health type visits by your Veterinarian. You can include or exclude Preg tests, Non Cycling Cows, Dirty Cows etc ... Print a Draft list and Full Report.



Vet Check Report for [redacted] Printed: 8/10/15 2-29PM

Including: Preg Tests, NVOs, FTCs, Events, for
Milkers, Dry Cows, To Be Culled Cows, for cows in all Groups Page 1

Cow	Status	Last Heat	Result	Reason					
0007	7/08/15 EM 16	No Heat		N.V.O. 62 Days	POSTNATAL	CidrGnRH 24/08/15	OrbeninL 15/08/15	MastitLF 15/08/15	Pullca: 7/08/15
0039	11/07/14 EM 16	31/07/15 GABE		PREG TEST 10 Weeks	Deworm 6/05/15	PD Empty 4/03/15	PD Empty 1/12/14	CidrGnRH 4/09/14	CidrGnI 14/08/14
0047	20/07/15 EM 16	No Heat		N.V.O. 80 Days	CidrGnRH 24/08/15	Oxytet 8/08/15	Visvag 4 3/08/15	Ir.MetCr 3/08/15	Pullca: 20/07/15
0052	10/06/15 EM 16	12/08/15 STRIKER		PREG TEST 08 Weeks	CidrGnRH 3/08/15	Cancer 7/07/15	Salmonel 17/06/15	Oxytet 17/06/15	4-in-1 13/06/15
0155	28/08/15 EM 16	No Heat		N.V.O. 41 Days	POSTNATAL				
0201	24/06/15 EM 16	30/07/15 STRIKER		PREG TEST 10 Weeks	Penicill 14/08/15	FootRot 14/08/15	OrbeninL 9/08/15	Mas.3Qtr 9/08/15	
0395	12/05/14 EM 16	20/07/15 AMICI		PREG TEST 11 Weeks	Bloat 1/07/15	Oxytet 1/07/15	BloatDch 1/07/15	Deworm 6/05/15	PD Emp 4/03/15
0529	6/08/14	23/08/15		POSTNATAL	PD Empty	Deworm	PD-Twins	PD.Preg.	PD Emp

Reports - Preg Test List

Standard report prints out all cows and their most recent matings with Sire in 3 columns.

Compact Report prints out all cows with their most recent matings in 6 columns.

If you check the "Include All Matings" box, each mating this current season will be listed on the report.

To recheck already diagnosed pregnant cows click – Include cows already diagnosed pregnant.

Reports - Dry Off List

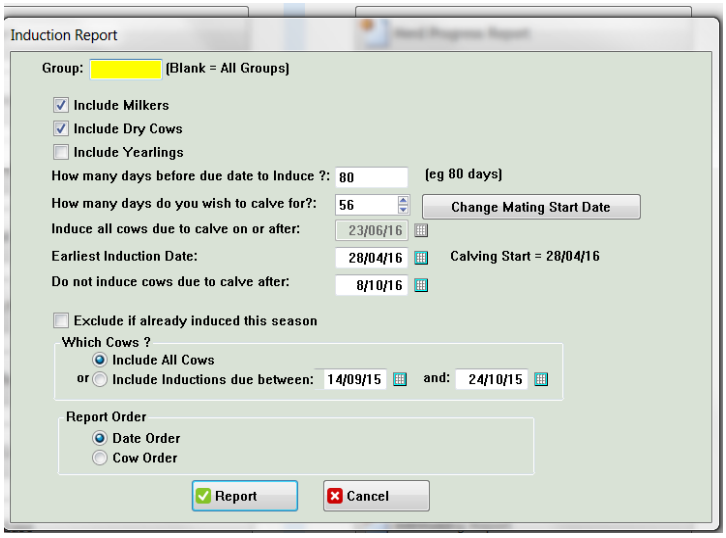
This report allows you to enter in your preferred length of dry period and your induction strategy, and then calculates when to dry your cows off. This can be done in Date Order or Cow Order. You can also set a date range ie. Cows to dry off this week only.

Dry Off Report (date order) for DairyData Model Farm
All cows 14/10/15 11-43AM
Including: Milkers, To Be Culled Cows, for cows in all Groups Page: 1

Cow	Status	Dry Off Date	Treatment	Due	Sire	Induce	Litres *	MastICCC > 250
1140	PM UF 6	25/01/15		26/03/15	DOUBLEDUTCH		22.9	
1460	PM UF 5	25/01/15		26/03/15	HISTORY		19.5	
1462	PM UX 5	25/01/15		26/03/15	HISTORY		24.4	
1599	PM UX 4	25/01/15		26/03/15	DOUBLEDUTCH		20.2	
1785	PM FX 3	25/01/15		26/03/15	HISTORY		18.2	
0941	PM FF 8	26/01/15		27/03/15	GEROLD		16.7	
0983	PM FF 8	26/01/15		27/03/15	GEROLD		15.9	
1144	PM FF 6	26/01/15		27/03/15	JACKOVICH		22.8	
1154	PM F 6	26/01/15		27/03/15	GEROLD		24.6	
1255	PM X 6	26/01/15		27/03/15	SOTO		22.6	
1360	PM FF 5	26/01/15		27/03/15	GEROLD		23.9	
1380	PM FF 5	26/01/15		27/03/15	GEROLD		15.8	
1438	PM FF 5	26/01/15		27/03/15	DOUBLEDUTCH		21.9	
1486	PM FF 4	26/01/15		27/03/15	GEROLD		20.9	M

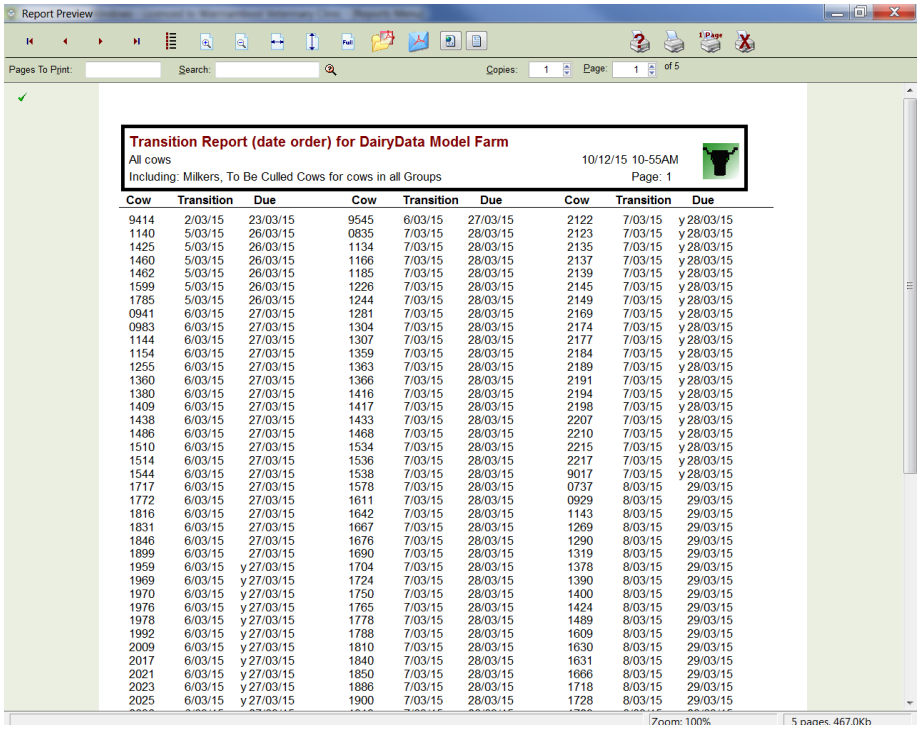
Reports - Induction Listing

If you are going to induce cows, it makes sense to induce them as early as possible. This report calculates the earliest induction date for your late calving cows.



Reports - Transition Cow List

This Report allows you to set the time before calving to bring the Dry cows closer before their due date.



Farm Reports

Reports - Farm Production

This report calculates your Farm Production, which is entered via a button on the Utilities Menu.

Report - In Calf Benchmarks

This report calculates your 6 week In Calf Rates and your 20 Week Empty Rates. You need to have a Mating Start Date entered in the Farm Diary.

Reports - Farm Diary Report

The Farm Diary is used to keep track of Herd Tests, Weigh Dates, and Mating Start Dates. You can also add your own entries. (Entries done through Farm Diary in Utilities).

Cow Reports

Reports – Wall Chart

This report contains a complete summary of each Cow. The Cow, her Herd Status, her Pregnancy Status, and her most recent Calving date are in the left column.

All her Heats and Matings this season are listed, as are all her events. Her current Due Date is listed in the right hand column with Sire.

This is a useful report to print and take to the Dairy if you do not have a computer there.

Reports – Cow Group Reports

This report allows you to list all the cows in a given group, all the cows not in any group, or all the cows that are in all groups.

Reports - Stock Register

This Report allows you to print a register of all the stock on your farm in Status order: Dry/Milking/Yearling/Calves.

Reports - Individual Cow History

Individual Cow History – gives a complete History for a Cow.

Reports – Heats & Matings

This Report allows you to list Heats and or Matings for all bulls or a specific bull over a certain period of time and calculate conception rates. In Cow Order or Date Order.

Reports - Events Report

This Report allows you to list event codes that occurred within a specified date range.

Reports - Empty Cows

This Report lists all the Empty cows and the Suspect Empty Cows since Preg Test.

Reports – Calving Ease

This Report is generated from the data entered at calving. Cows that needed assistance at calving etc.

Reports – Historical Cow Status

This Report allows you to calculate your stock on hand at any given date.

Management Reports

Reports - Herd Progress Report

This Report provides a "Snapshot" of your farm performance. A summary of basic reproductive indices, significant recent events such as Mastitis, Milk Fever, lameness and Dead/Sold.

Reports - Cows Due to Calve

This Report lists all pregnant cows in either Date order or Cow order. You must enter Pregnancy Diagnosis information for cows to appear on this list.

Reports - Cows That Have Calved

This Report lists cows that have calved in either Date or Cow order.

Reports - Cows lost from the herd

This report lists Dead and Sold Cows between a date range by Cow order or Date order.

Reports - Predicted Stock Numbers

This report allows you to enter a dry off and an induction strategy, then it calculates your predicted Stock numbers in a running date order. Using the Dry off and due to calve dates.

It is designed to help with feed budgeting.

Reports - Weight Reports

The Weight Reports lists all weighing's for stock of a given age group. It calculates Average Daily Gains and Averages.

The report can print in Cow ID, Weight or Breed order.

The Weigh Dates that form the column headings must be entered in the Farm Diary.

To add a weight, add a weigh event (code 10) and put the weight in the comment field.

Reports - Expected Heat Dates

This report prints out a list of which cows are due to come on heat in the next 21 days based on their recent heats if data has been entered.

Reports – Withholding Report

This report gives all Milk, Meat and Dry Period withholds when events have been entered with an withhold period.

Reports – Lactation Length Analysis

This report includes only cows dried off within the date range.

Carryover cows (lactation length >365days) are not included in averages.

Mastitis / Herd Tests

Reports - Cell Count Report

This report lists cell counts for each cow.

ICCCs from the previous lactation are in italics, and high ICCCs are in red.

Reports – Clinical Mastitis Report

This report lists clinical mastitis cases and treatments that have been entered.

Reports - Annual Cow Production

This Report recalculates whole of lactation data from herd tests and prints it using the same standard calculations as your Herd Test Centre.

Reports - Herd Test Reports

This Report analyses Herd Test information and generates a summary of it.

Reports - Herd Test Worksheet

This Report lists all cows which calved within a defined date range along with the Cow ID, Herd Test ID, National ID, and the details of any calves reared. It is a good way to supply your herd test Centre with information prior to herd testing.

Reports - Stale Cows

This Report will show cows that have not calved by a selected date. This report can be exported to spreadsheet.

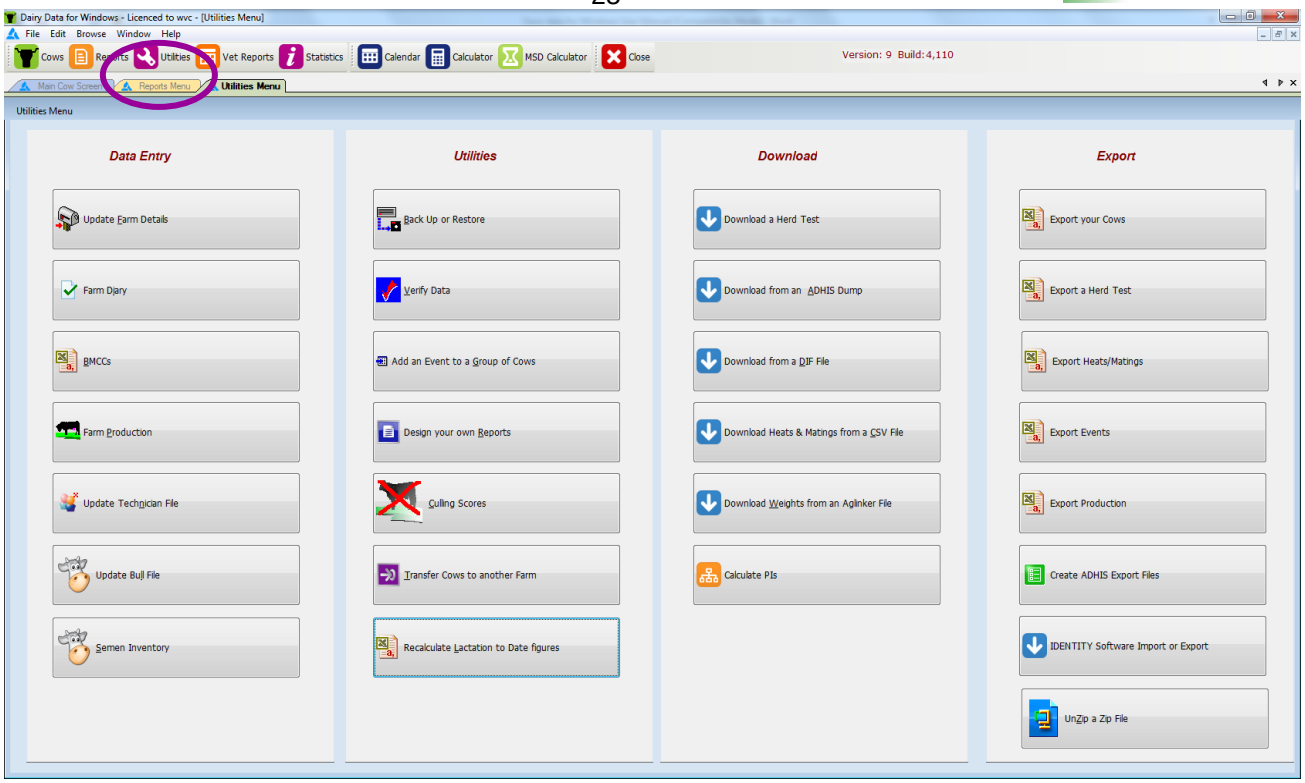
Reports – Design your own Reports

Dairy Data will allow you to design your own report layouts and queries. You can then match a report layout with a query and print it.

This is a wizard driven process - just follow the prompts!

Menu - Utilities

To navigate to the Utilities Menu, click the Utilities button on the Toolbar at the top of the screen.



Data Entry

Utilities – Update Farm Details

The Farm File contains information about the owner and location of the farm, the farm area, and the Current Mating Start Date.

Each time you start a new mating period, you should update the Mating Start Date in the Farm File.

Utilities - Farm Diary

The Farm Diary keeps track of Herd Test Dates, Weigh Dates, and Mating Start Dates. You can also add your own Diary Entries.

Utilities – BMCC's

This Procedure allows you to record your BMCCs.

Utilities - Farm Production

You can enter your farm Production into dairy data. You can choose whether to enter daily, 10 daily or monthly summary data.

Utilities – Update Technician File

Some Data Entry screens require you to select an AI Technician. There are several quick ways to do this in Dairy Data.

1. You will notice that when you begin to enter the Technician, the nearest matching one is displayed in blue immediately after the cursor. To select this technician at any time, press Enter or Tab.

2. Whilst entering a Technician, you can use the Up or Down arrow keys to scroll through the Technicians.

3. If you press the Space Bar, enter a Technician that is not on file, or click the button next to the Technician Entry Field, a list of available Technicians will appear and you can choose the Technician you want from this list or add a new one.

Utilities – Update Bull File

Some Data Entry screens require you to select a Bull. There are several quick ways to do this in Dairy Data.

1. You will notice that when you begin to enter the Bull's ID, the nearest matching Bull is displayed in blue immediately after the cursor. To select this Bull at any time, press Enter or Tab.

2. Whilst entering a Bull, you can use the Up or Down arrow keys to scroll through the Bulls. Press Enter or Tab when the Bull you want appears.

3. If you press the Space Bar, enter a Bull that is not on file, or click the button next to the Bull Entry Field, a list of available Bulls in your herd will appear.

You can search for a Bull by typing in a part of it's Name, Secondary Nasis Code or National ID at this point.

You can add a new bull at this point by clicking insert. From here you can enter information about the Bulls in your herd. If you don't know some of the information, just leave it blank. **(see Heats & Matings for adding bulls)**

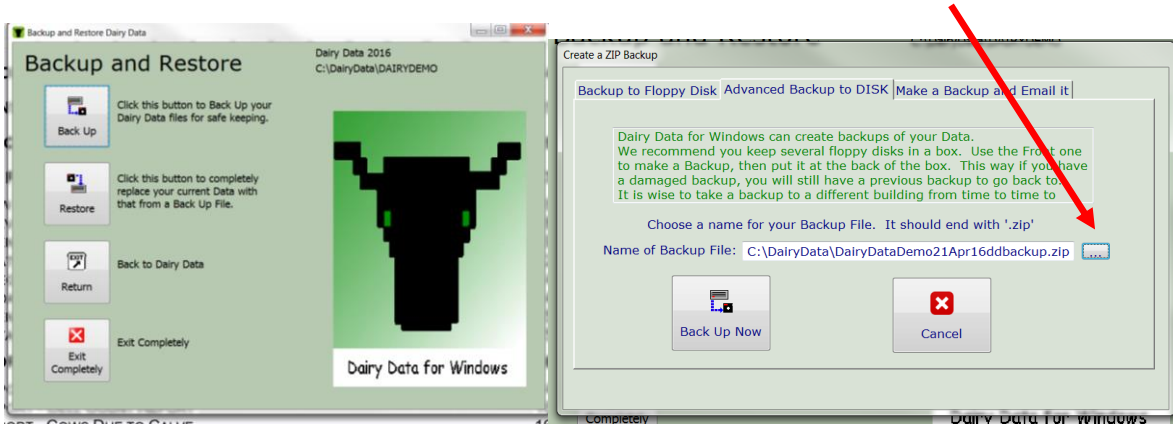
Utilities – Semen Inventory

To keep track of semen purchased/used – Insert the Number of straws purchased per Bull. When matings are entered this will calculate your remaining stock inventory.

Utilities – Back Up or Restore

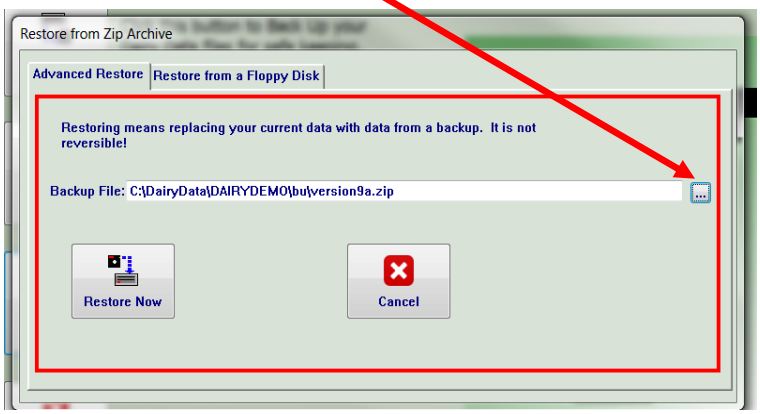
Back Up

To Back up Dairy Data Click Back Up, then the Advanced Backup to Disk tab. If backing up to a USB, click the gray box with the blue dots and the end of the line. Select your USB drive. Also change your file name by adding the date so if you ever need to go back to a previous backup you can. (Do not use . or / in file name) Click Back Up Now.



Restore

If you are needing to restore Dairy Data or have been sent a backup with changes. (Save the backup sent to you to your computer, remember where you saved it to on your computer) Click Resotore, click the grey box at the end with the blue dots, find where you saved the backup on your computer, select, open then Restore Now.



Utilities – Verify Data

This Procedure checks for errors in your data.

Dairy Data maintains a Status file so that the Herd Status of a cow can be determined at any point in the past. This procedure re-generates that file, and checks for other errors in Data integrity. You should run this procedure after adding calvings, Dry off events, importing data from a file, or if you have any other reason to suspect errors in your data.

Utilities – Add an Event to a Group of Cows

This procedure will allow you to add an event to a number of cows at once. These cows can be selected by Group, Herd Status, Calving Date, Pregnant or Empty. You can add a sold event for cows

not Preg Tested Since ……..

Utilities – Design your own Reports

Dairy Data will allow you to design your own report layouts and queries. You can then match a report layout with a query and print it.

This is a wizard driven process - just follow the prompts!

Utilities – Culling Score

This utility helps you make culling decisions. You can assign scores for many of the important traits that may lead to a culling decision. Dairy Data will add them up for each cow. You can then print them or export the list to a spreadsheet.

Utilities – Transfer Cows to another Farm

Dairy Data will allow you to transfer cows to another Farm.

You can either make a direct copy of the cow's record on the other farm, or Dairy Data can automatically create events that sell the cow on one farm and purchase it on the other.

Utilities – Recalculate Lactation to Date figures

This procedure re-calculates the Lactation to date figures based on your herd test data, and the calving dates in Dairy Data.

Download

Utilities – Download a Herd Test

Save Herd Test file to your computer from email. (Remember the location you save this file to).

Click Download a Herd Test

Make sure you have **BACKED UP** before proceeding!

Download From File

Select the Herd Test file. (Saved on your computer)

The Herd Test will start downloading, it will automatically unzip your file. Ignore any prompts given – Do not Abort.

Once finished Verify Data.

Your Herd Test will now be added.

Utilities – Download from an ADHIS Dump

This procedure allows you to download information from an ADHIS DUMP which you can obtain from your Herd Test Centre or other software programs.

An ADHIS DUMP consists of a group of several files each containing a specific type of information. You need to ensure that your Herd Test Centre includes the specific record types you want in your ADHIS Dump. ADHIS Dumps tend to contain all the information the herd test has sometimes going back many years.

Save file to your computer or on USB.

If the file is .zip you will need to unzip the file first. (See UnZip a Zip file)

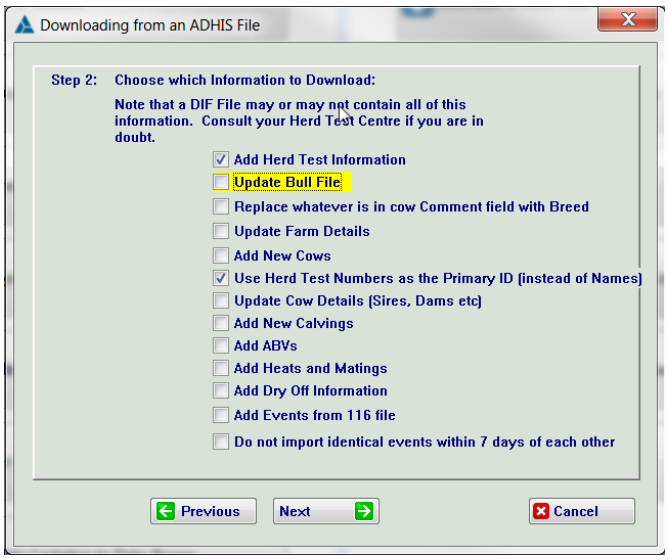
Make sure you have **BACKED UP** before proceeding.

Click Download From An ADHIS Dump.

Search for the file (saved on your computer or USB).

NEXT

If you enter all Dry Off and Calving data you only need to select – Add Herd Test Information and Use Herd Test Numbers as the Primary ID (instead of Names). But if you give all of this information to the Herd Test Centre to enter you will need to select them ALL (Except for add events from 116 file)



Next

Download

Close report when finished.

Verify Data

Check Main Cow Screen to see if Herd Test has come through.

Back up again.

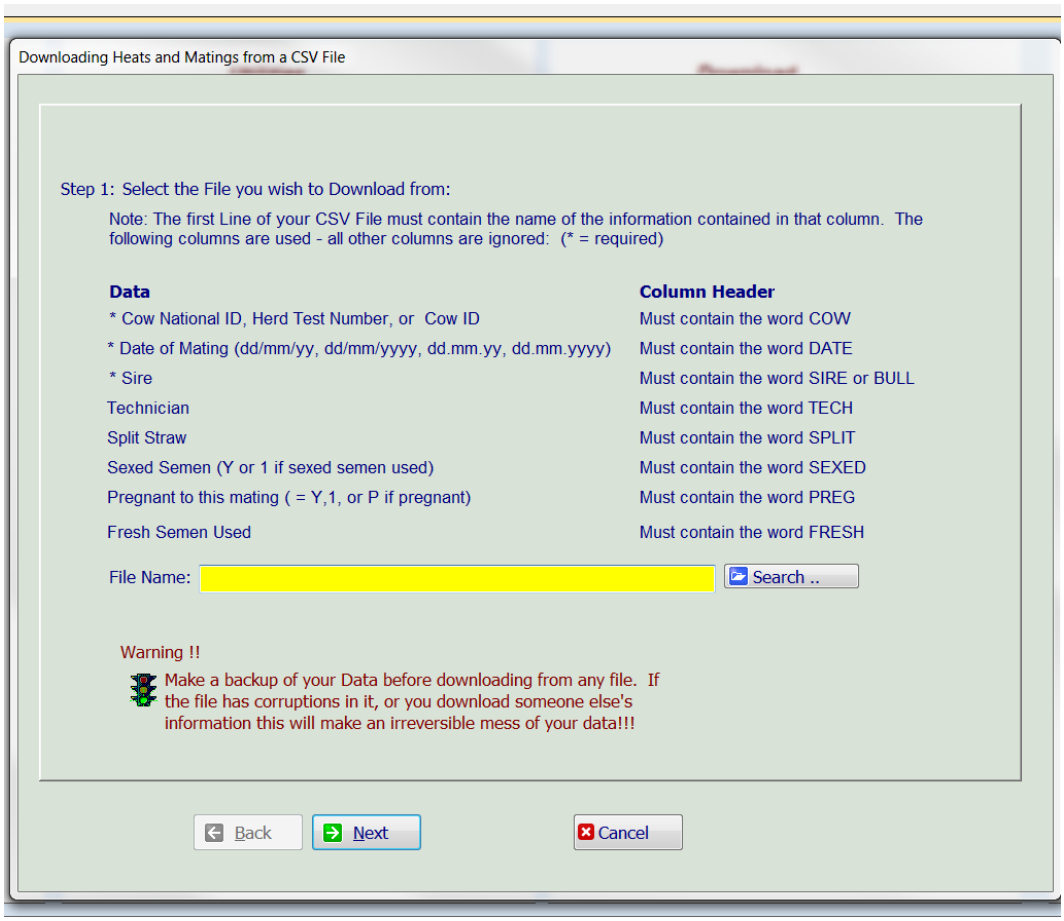
Utilities – Download - DIF Files

DIF Files are an easy way to get consist of one file which may contain several different record types.

Utilities – Download Heats & Matings from a CSV File

A CSV (Comma Separated Values) File consists of information in columns separated by commas. Dairy Data can import matings from a CSV file provided it has the correct structure.

The first line (or Header Line) contains information about what is in each column. There can be upto 20 columns. The following columns are used – all other columns are ignored. (* = required)

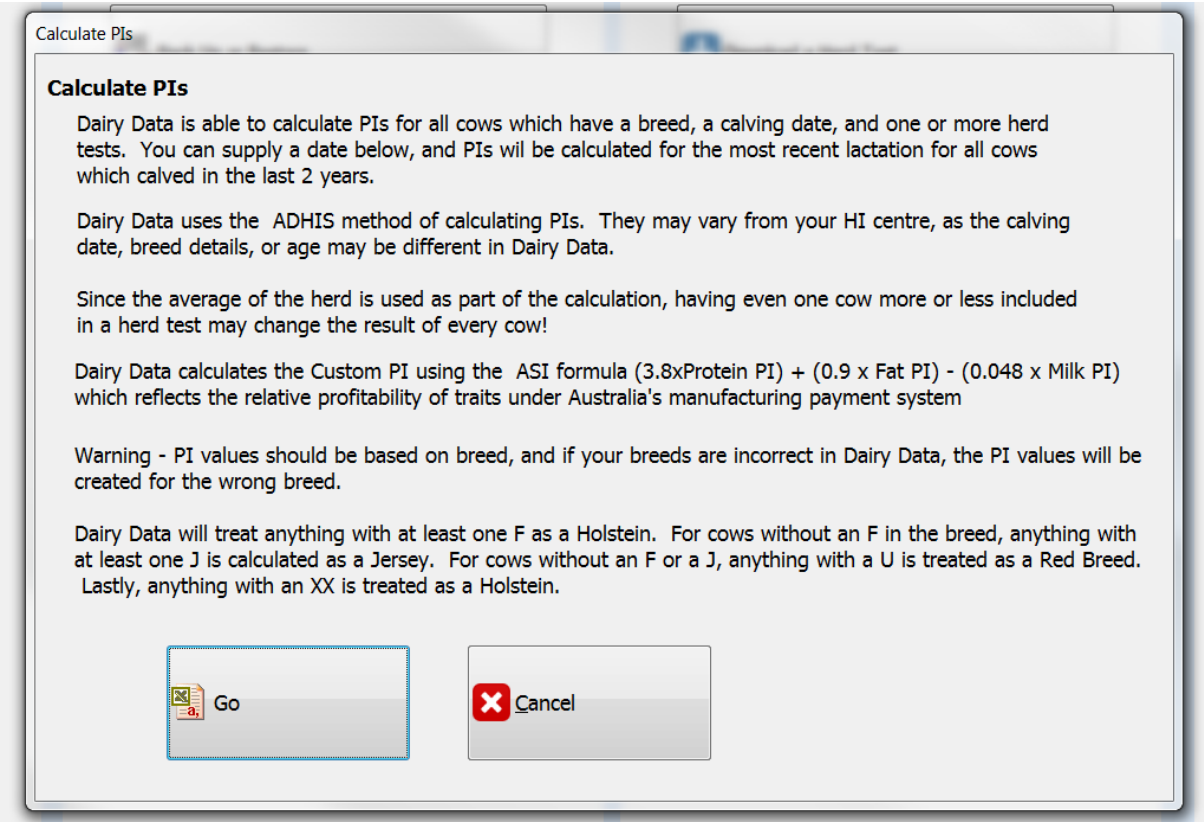


You can make your own CSV File from any spreadsheet.

Utilities – Download Weights from an Aglinker File

After having your calves weighed and you have the file it can be imported into Dairy Data here.

Utilities – Calculate PI's



Export

Export – Export your Cows

Export your cows to spreadsheet including last calving, Dam, Dam Sire, Sire and Sire of last Mating with due date. This also includes your ABV details.

Export – Export a Herd Test

Export to spreadsheet this has current herd test data and YTD data.

Export – Export Heats/Matings

Export to spreadsheet all matings within a date range.

Export – Export Events

Export to spreadsheet all events entered for a date range.

Export – Export Production

This procedure will allow you to export the ICCCs and Litres for the last 10 herd test for each cow to spreadsheet.

Export – Create ADHIS Export Files

This can be used to send your cow data to the Herd Test Centre before testing.

Include 102, 103 (with calving range), 104 and 108 (Matings & Preg Test).

Zip these files for email.

Export – IDENTITY Software Import or Export

This is used to transfer data between Identity and Dairy Data.

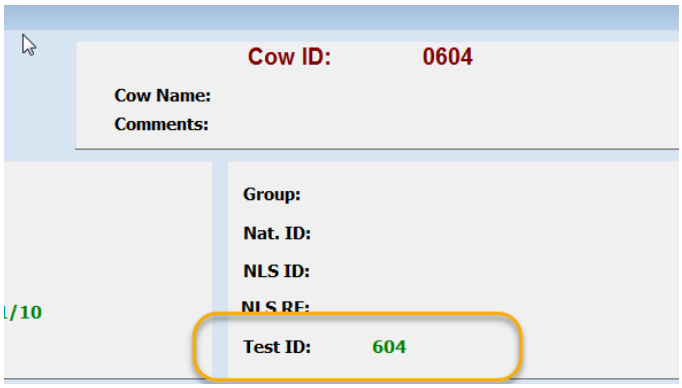
Export – UnZip a Zip File

If you Herd Test you will need to unzip the file before importing it to Dairy Data. Click unzip select the file. You can change the location the file will be unzipped to or it will default to C:\unzip. Click next then UnZip.

Browse

Make Herd Test ID Same as the cows Primary ID –

If this is 0 your herd test data will not match to this cow.



Glossary

Bull File

This file contains information about all the Bulls used in your herd. You can access this file from the Utilities Menu.

Button

A Button is an area on the screen that you can click on to make programmes in windows perform a specific action.

Calvings

You can view all the calvings of a cow from the Cow File Maintenance Screen by pressing F6 or clicking on the "Calvings" Tab.

Date Entry

There are many Shortcuts to entering Dates in Dairy Data. If you click the Calendar icon next to the Date Field, or press F12 at any time, a Calendar appears and you can choose a date.

Event

Events include everything that happens to a cow that is not a Heat, Mating, Calving, or Herd Test.

You can view and edit all the events for a cow from the Cow File Maintenance Screen by pressing F4 or clicking on the "Event" Tab.

Farm Diary

To update the Farm Diary, Click Utilities on the Toolbar at the top of the screen, then click the Farm Diary Button.

The Farm Diary keeps track of Herd Test Dates, Weigh Dates, and Mating Start Dates. You can also add your own Diary Entries.

Group

Dairy Data allows you to assign cows to **Groups**.

This may be useful for separating cows in split calving herds, for farms that run 2 dairies, or just to keep an eye on certain cows.

All reports can be run for all cows or just the cows in a specific **Group**.

To Change a cow's Group, add a ***Change Group*** Event (Code 9) and put the desired Group in the Comment Field.

Tip: You can make up any group name you like. Cows can be in more than one Group. For Example a cow in Group 123 would appear on reports if you asked for Group 1, 2, 23 or 123.

Herd Status

A Cow's Herd Status describes where in the herd she is at any given point in time. Dairy Data uses the following Status codes:

M	*Milking*	Cow is currently in the Milking Herd.
D	*Dry*	Cow has lactated in the past but is now Dry
T	*To be Culled*	Cow is planned to be culled. Assumed to be milking, but will not appear on "action" lists.
S	*Sold*	Cow has been Sold.
X	*Dead*	Cow is Dead
Y	*Yearling*	Cow is more than 12 months old and has not yet calved. Note that 3-year-old maiden heifers are still considered as "Yearlings" by Dairy Data yearlings automatically become "Milkers" when a cow calves for the first time.
C	*Calf*	Calf less than 12 months old. Calf records are automatically created when a calving record is entered. Calves become "Yearlings" when they are 12 months old.

Mating Start Date

A Mating Start Date should be registered each time you begin a new mating period. There may be several Mating Start Dates in a year for split calving herds.

The Farm Diary contains a list of all the Mating Start Dates that have occurred.

The Farm File contains the Current Mating Start Date.

Each time you start a new mating period, you should update the Mating Start Date in the Farm File.

Mating

Matings for each cow can be seen by pressing the F5 Key, or clicking on the "Heats and Matings" from the Cow File Maintenance Screen.

The Bull File contains information about whether the Sire was a natural mating or an AI mating. You may find it convenient to use the sire called "Unknown" to differentiate between Pregnancy Diagnosis Dates and matings that were actually observed.

To record a Heat, just use a Sire called 'H'.

Pregnancy Status

A Cows Pregnancy Status is E (Empty) or P (Pregnant).

In Dairy Data, cows become pregnant when pregnancy testing information is entered. They become Empty when they calve or an abortion event is added.

Even if you do not physically pregnancy test your cows, you will need to enter Pregnancy Diagnosis data to the last Mating to have the cows status change to Pregnant.

Pregnancy Testing

To enter Pregnancy Diagnosis information, go to the Cow File Maintenance Screen and press F4 or click on the "Heats and Matings" tab then click on the "Preg Testing" button.

Tab

Tabs occur at the top of Lists in Windows.

Clicking on a Tab will generally change the way the list is displayed.

Tab can also refer to the Tab Key, which in Windows is the normal key used to move between entry fields on a screen.

Toolbar

The Tool Bar is the bar across the top of the screen in Dairy Data.