Fern Creek Dairy

Operators
Jason Campbell
Brian Schultz
Karen DeVries
Nicole Krieger

Location
- Ferndale, California
- Milk market is mainly in northern California in the Eureka vicinity
- Dairy is approximately 475 acres with around 250 acres in corn for silage.
- 200 acres are broken up into pasture paddocks for grazing and the rest is in facilities for production

Fern Creek’s Herd
- 775 total cows in herd
- Milk 650 at a time
- 125 are estimated to be dry
- Heifer calves will be raised on the farm until the age of 10-12 weeks and will be housed in calf hutch
- Approximately half will be purchased as springers the other half will be purchased as two year olds.

Labor
- Employ 5 general employees with 2 herdsmen along with help from owner/operators
- Herdsmen have at least a BA in animal science(preferably from OSU) with an emphasis in dairy production and no less than three years field experience
- Other employees range from high school part-time work to college interns

Feed Management
- Ration based largely on Alfalfa Hay and Corn Silage with some additional Corn grain and Soybean Meal
- Corn is grown on site, while hay and soybean meal is contracted from closest available sources

Feed Management (cont.)
- Feeds are stored in conventional manner. Horizontal Silos, Silage Pit, etc.
- Mixed ration is delivered to cattle via a feed wagon
Feed List
- Alfalfa Hay
- Corn Silage
- Corn Grain
- Soybean Meal
- Mineral Supplement

Reproduction and Genetics
- Artificial Insemination will primarily be used on the dairy
- Two cleanup bulls will be housed on the dairy which will range in age from 18-24 months
- Estrous detection will consist of visual observation and the use of HeatWatch

Manure Management
- Flushing will be used to transport manure out of the freestall barns
- Waste from calf huts will be combined with after separation solids
- All manure is flushed into a pit
- Manure agitated and pumped to the manure separator

Manure Management
- Liquids stored in a lagoon and solids stored in a bunker
- Solids and liquids applied to property that is used to grow corn and grazing
- Solids distributed by manure spreader and liquids delivered by an irrigation traveler
- A consultant will be hired to develop a nutrient management plan

Odor Management Plan
- Trees planted around the lagoon
- Storage facilities will be located out of sight from public roads and nearby residences
- Drainage from all developed parts of the property will flow into vents and drains that are connected to the manure pit

Milking Center
- Parlor will have a 30 stall rotary milker
- Cows will be milked 3x day. Each milking will take approximately 5.5 hours
- Parlor throughput will be 6 1/3 times per hour which will milk 180 cows/hr
- Milking procedure will consist of pre-dipping, wiping, attaching units, and post-dipping
Dairy Consultants
- Fern Creek Dairy will utilize the expertise of various professionals
- Nutritionist
- Veterinarian
- Dairy Extension Agent
- Industry Consultants
- Dairy Sanitation Specialist
- Building Engineers

Capital Needed
- Cows = $835,000
- Housing = $750,000
- Feed Storage = $51,000
- Land = $1,000,000
- Manure Storage = $640,000
- Milking Center = $311,500
- Equipment = $78,200

Capital Cont’d
- Total Capital Needed: $3,665,700
- Total Financed: $2,566,420
- Down Payment: $1,099,280

Questions