Wide River Dairy

Owned and Managed by Crystal Sorenson, Nichole DeBellis, Anthony McNeel, and Carrie Marean

Location and Market

- Eastern Oregon, specifically Boardman, OR
- Tillamook County Creamery Association has a new processing plant in the local area

Cows

- Total herd: 5,942 cows
  - Lactating: 5,051 cows
  - Dry: 744 cows

Land

- 3,030 acres with water
  - This is the necessary acreage for the manure generated.

Cattle Acquisition

- 5,000 heifers @ $1,200 each
  - Purchased from heifer raisers, auctions and dairies going out of business.
- 942 cows @ $1,400 each
  - Purchased from auctions and dairies going out of business

Enterprises

- Crops
  - 1,750 acres into irrigated alfalfa hay
  - 1,250 acres into irrigated corn silage
  - 100 acres facilities and pastures
- Heifers
  - Sent off the farm to be raised; cost $1.10/head/day
Milking Center Facilities
- Parlor
  - 2 72-stall rotaries
- Groups
  - 361 cows per group
  - 14 groups of lactating cows
  - Milking 3x daily

Milking Center Facilities (cont.)
- Prep Routine
  - Pre-dip in 0.5% chlorhexidine
  - Strip
  - Wipe
  - Attach
  - Post-dip sealer

Barns
- Lactating cows
  - Free stall barns in a double “T” formation
  - 722 free stalls and headlocks
  - 2 groups per barn
  - 7 lactating barns

Barns (cont.)
- Dry cows
  - Dry lot 600 sq. ft./cow
  - Total 446,400 sq. ft.
  - 750 headlocks
  - Grouped by body condition

Barns (cont.)
- Sick cows
  - 8th barn
  - Split up into pens
    - Vet area, fresh cow area, maternity pens, sick cow pens, slow milkers pen

Equipment
- Milking equipment
- Instant cooler
- 4 mix wagon trucks
- 1 skid steers
- 1 bulldozer
- 1 hay squeeze
- 1 tractor with loader
- 4 guns for manure
- 2 farm trucks
- 2 4-wheelers
Ration
- Alfalfa hay - 6 lb. daily
- Corn silage - 32.5 lb. daily
- Barley - 6.5 lb. daily
- Cracked corn - 7 lb. daily
- Whole cotton seeds - 7.5 lb. daily
- Corn distillers - 4.5 lb. daily
- 48% soybean oil meal - 2.5 lb. daily
- Mineral supplement - 1 lb. daily

Storage Facilities
- Alfalfa hay
  - Store 250 tons on dairy, enough to last 2 weeks
- Corn silage
  - Will store all on dairy in horizontal concrete bunkers
- Barley, cracked corn, whole cotton seed, corn distillers, soybean oil meal, and mineral mix will be stored in individual bays in a commodity shed.

Storage facility dimensions
- Hay barn
  - 17' x 48' x 96'
- Horizontal bunkers
  - 5 20' x 100' x 200'
- Commodity shed with 6 bays
  - 12' x 36'

Method and equipment for delivery
- Truckload of alfalfa hay will come every other day
- 125 tons a week needed; 250 ton storage capacity.
- Silage packed into bunkers; covered with black plastic and tires.
- Other commodities - stored in bays in commodity shed; refilled when necessary.

Manure management: collection, storage and application
- Barns will be flushed to a settling lagoon
- Liquid will gravity-flow into another lagoon where it will be pumped onto the fields
- Solids will be sold as steer manure
- Plan will come from an outside consultant

Nutrient/odor management plan
- Will consult with a professional from the Oregon Dairy Association for a nutrient management plan
- Will consult OSU extension agent about an odor management plan
**Labor management**
- 80 employees
- 37 herdsmen
- 5 employees/parlor/shift – 30 total
- 9 feeders
- 1 loader (head feeder)
- 1 mechanic
- 2 general maintenance

**Education/Experience Level**
- General maintenance has electrical and carpentry backgrounds
- Parlor employees should have no experience

**Reproduction and Genetics**
- **AI vs. Natural service**
  - AI for the first 2 services. If the cow doesn't take, then clean-up bull will be used.
- **Estrus detection and synch programs**
  - No synch program. Heat detection done visually by herdsmen, as well as AI service.

**Professional consultants**
- Veterinarian
- Nutritionist
- Engineer
- Secretary/Bookkeeper
- CPA
- Extension agent
- Nutrient management consultant
- Repro specialist

**Questions**