

Siemers



Genetics for Cow People

Holsteins

“Genetics for Cow People”

“If you put your mind to doing whatever it is you want to do, good things can happen.”

- MICHAEL JORDAN

LOCATION

Eastern WI

8 Miles West of Lake Michigan

Half way between Green Bay and
Milwaukee



Scope



Siemers Holsteins

6800 Milking & Dry Cows

3200 Hectare

RHA 17050kg 4.3% 3.1 %

+300 Embryo Implants Weekly

History

Currently 5th & 6th generation

Early 2000s we experimented with cross breeding heavily in the commercial dairy.

2009 transitioned back to Holsteins and built deep bedded sand freestalls.





Everyday we focus on 6 BASICS to accomplish our production goals.

1. Calf Nutrition
2. Agronomy
3. Lactating Nutrition
4. Grouping Strategies
5. Genetics
6. Attention to DETAIL

1. Calf Nutrition

4x daily calf feeding peaking out at 8 quarts daily

Gradual ramp up and ramp down

Using whole milk with a protein balancer

More digested calories = Less Treatments

Treatments = Expensive

More Treatments = Less Milk



2. Agronomy

1. Brown Midrib - Corn Silage
 1. If harvested correctly, there is 3 Kg/d
2. Eastern WI very conducive for highly digestible alfalfa production
3. Utilize triticale silage in dry cow rations has been a huge recent development
4. Large believers in fungicide!!!
5. **HEALTHY PLANTS = HEALTHY COWS**



3. Lactating Nutrition

- 1. Multiple Ra
 - 1. High Rat
 - 2. High Rat
 - 3. Pregnan
 - 4. Pregnan
 - 5. Postfres
 - 6. Postfres
 - 7. Prefresh
 - 8. Prefresh



65%
75%
l:
n WI:

Soybean Meal, Ground Corn, Whey, Molasses, Canola Meal, Dry Distillers Grain

4. Grouping Strategies

Primiparous cows never meet a multiparous cow until dry off.

1. Manage nutrition and DMI aggressively
2. To run a high RHA – NEED the heifers to THRIVE

Manage Time Budgets for no longer than **45 minutes per milking**

1. Keep cattle laying
2. Keep cattle eating

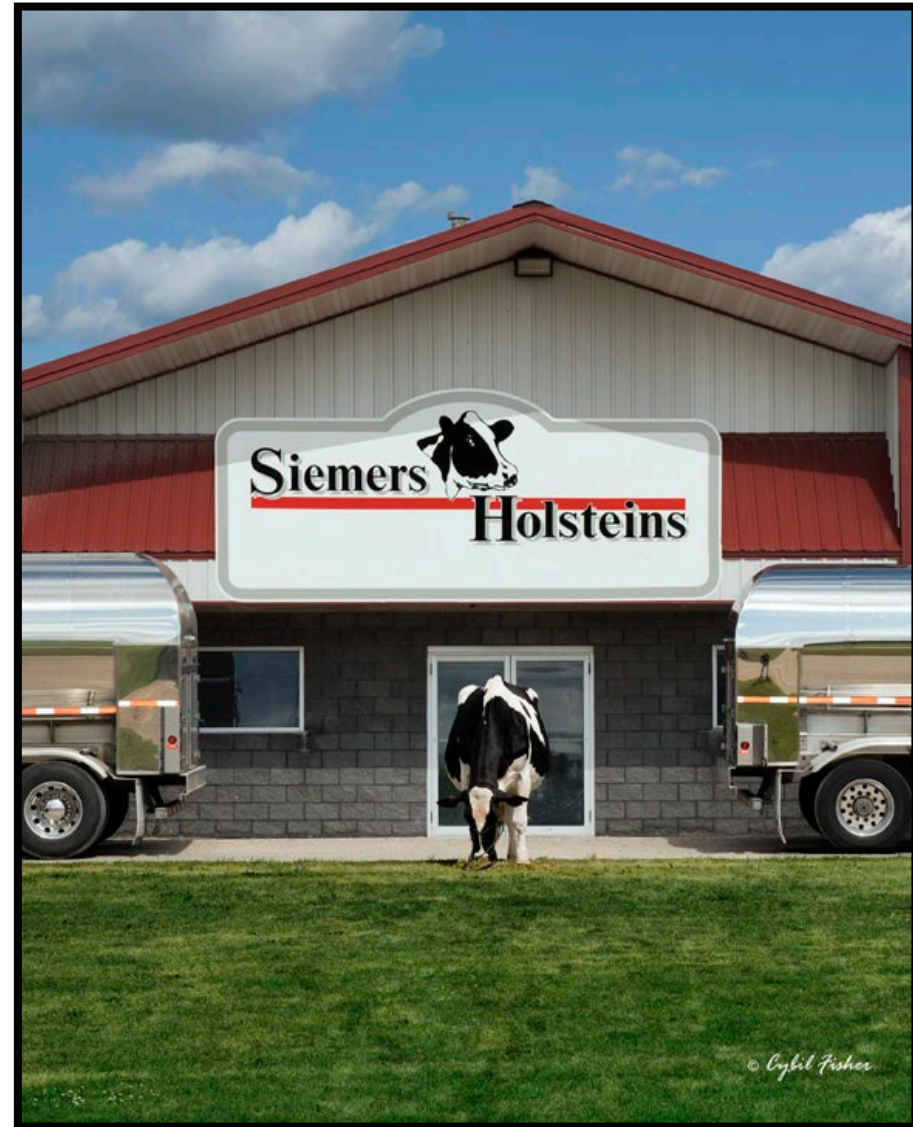


5. Genetics

Semen is an inexpensive LONG-TERM INVESTMENT .

No BETTER consistent ROI on a Dairy!

1. Learn the pattern of the most profitable cows in your herd & make more of them!!!
2. SIRE SELECTION controls direction & speed
3. Complement future management with genetic selection.
4. Be open minded. Incorporating some level of trust in low reliability traits which is better than NO trust.



6. Attention to DETAIL

1. No matter the position on our dairy, everybody is expected to watch details everyday and be vocal about potential problems.
2. Every Manager is a working manager so that managers are connected to the employees and cattle. Paperwork can be done outside of working hours.
3. Utilize technology: Feed Software, Activity Monitors, Management Software.
4. If you make cleanliness a priority, it's amazing the culture you can build around that.





Proven Leaders
by Design, not Chance

SANDY
ALLEY
FARMS



QUESTIONS?