

CREAM 2021-2022

CREAM Newsletter

FALL EDITION



By: CREAM Outreach

Table of Contents

Page Number	Topics
2	Intro to CREAM
3-4	Meet the CREAMers
5	Daily Chores
6-8	Class Committees
9	Guest Speaker Highlight
10-11	Deerfield Fair Trip
12-13	Classmate Connections
14	Halloween Activities!
15	Cow Games
16	Pictures

Introduction to CREAM

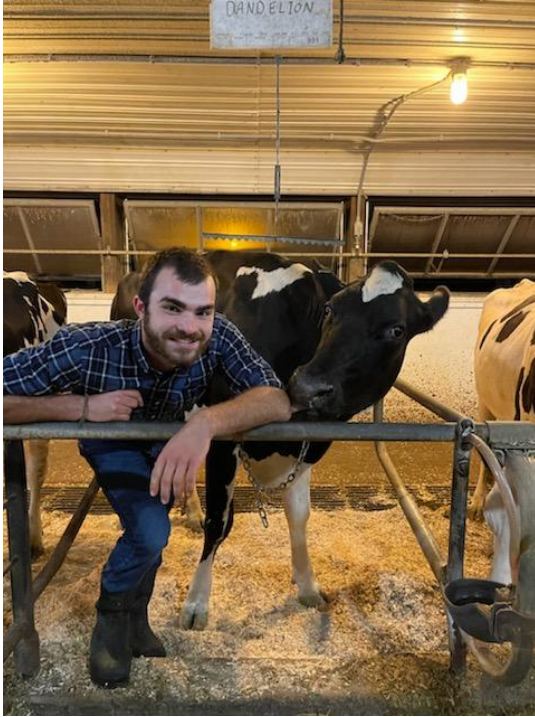
Cooperative for Real Education in Agriculture Management (CREAM) is a student-run class that provides students with hands-on experience working with cattle. CREAM is not a typical university course that is structured by lectures and exams. Students will have the opportunity to milk, feed, and manage a herd of about 25 registered Holstein cattle. They will also be in charge of tracking feed costs, veterinary expenses, student labor, and other costs that are related to running a small dairy cattle business. Students are expected to put in about 8-10 hours per week each semester. That includes participating in business meetings, committee meetings, chores, and other related activities. Time management is a crucial part of being able to manage CREAM as well as other courses. In order to manage a herd successfully, it is important to have the right motivation and be able to work as a group to serve the best interest of the cows. That includes making decisions not based on “right” or “wrong”, but the “best” decisions from several “right” alternatives. The main goal of this course is to provide ideas for improvement to have maximum herd production.

By: Shae Granese

Udderly Funny: What is a cow's favorite newspaper?

[The Daily Moos]

Meet Some of the CREAMers



Joe Garcia is a Sophomore in the Applied Animal Science Major. He is from Strafford, New Hampshire. Joe's agricultural focuses are primarily in dairy, sheep, and forage production. He currently works at the UNH Organic Dairy Farm and is the CREAM Class President, as well as a member of the UNH Dairy Club and Collegiate 4-H.



Megan Vetter is a junior animal science major from New Jersey, hoping to become a large or mixed animal veterinarian. She's worked a lot with horses, as a small animal vet assistant, and at the veterinary diagnostic lab, so working with cows is an exciting change for her! She is also a member of the pre-vet club and dairy club and a leader for the outing club.



Kelsi Devolve is a junior animal science, pre-vet major from Canterbury, Connecticut. She works as a veterinary technician at a small animal hospital in Brooklyn, Connecticut, and hopes to pursue a career as a small animal nutritionist. As the CREAM Class Secretary, Kelsi is enjoying working in the field of large animals. She is also a Residential Assistant in Scott Hall, as well as a member of the UNH professional agricultural sorority, Sigma Alpha.



Ava Andreozzi is a junior Biomedical Science/Pre-Vet major from North Providence, RI. She works as a veterinary assistant on her school breaks and is hoping to become a small animal veterinarian. This is her first experience working with cows and she loves it! Ava is the class office manager and a member of the Pre-Vet Club.

Daily Chores

Regular Shift: 4:15 AM & 3:15 PM	Mid-Shift: 5:30 AM & 4:30 PM
<p>Tying</p> <p><i>Before Milking</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Get all the cows up, unclip, and release them up to the holding area of the parlor to be milked <p><i>During Milking</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scrape out all soiled shavings and manure from stalls and lane way into gutter ● Rebed the stalls with shavings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Afternoons- Add lime to wet areas ● Clean the waterers <p><i>After Milking</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● As cows come back, get each cow into their assigned stall ● Clip each cow to stall ● Final scrape and sweep of area ● Double check all cows are re-clipped <p>Milking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Let cows into the holding area and milk parlor ● Milk the CREAM herd ● Let cows return to stalls <p>Feeding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Put together Total Mixed Ration (TMR) using the Jaylor ● Distribute the feed to the CREAM herd ● Push up feed, even out rations, sweep alleyway 	<p>Maternity Pens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scrape out and remove all soiled shavings and manure from each maternity pen ● Rebed each pen ● Notify barn staff of calvings or placenta drops ● Sweep alleyway <p>Calf Stalls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scrape out and remove all soiled shavings and manure from each calf stall ● Rebed each calf stall ● Give calves milk and grain as required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bottle and bucket feed milk ○ Provide Colostrum as needed ● Clean and refill water buckets <p>Calf Hutches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scrape out and remove all soiled shavings and manure from each calf hutch and concrete area ● Rebed each of the hutches <p>Heifer Feeding (Morning Shift Only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Put together Total Mixed Ration (TMR) using the Jaylor for each heifer pen ● Distribute the feed to the cows in the heifer barn ● Feed TMR to calves in the hutches area <p>“Pick the Pack” (Afternoon Shift Only)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use pitchfork to scoop up any manure piles in the dry cow barn

Udderly Funny: Where did the cow spend all its money?

[At the Cow-sino]

By: Grace Finch

Committees

Forming Committees:

Students are assigned to each of the 5 committees throughout the year. These committees include **Production Management, Breeding, Finance, Education and Planning, and Farm Facilities and Management**. Business meetings are held every Tuesday where each committee reports any data or shares announcements regarding what happened in that week. Each committee plays an important role in having a successful CREAM program.

Production Management:

The goal of the production committee is to discuss the number of heifers, milk production averages, fat and protein percentage levels in the milk, number of fresh cows, health issues, diets, improvements, and monitoring body condition score and environmental scores. It is important for the committee to keep track of feed intake and milk production. Nutritional requirements and comfort are very important to the health of the cows. Members are in charge of implementing any changes that will maximize the production of the individual cow and the overall production of the herd. As well as, develop solutions to any challenges the cows are facing, and discuss nutrition, diets, veterinary issues, and other issues that will maintain the best health and wellbeing of the cows. The committee also includes "herdsman duties" which gives the students hands-on cow experience. Students are expected to participate in "production checks" where they go twice a day (8-11am and 8-11pm) to collect data about the number of cows chewing cud, eating, laying down, and standing. Also, taking note of any abnormalities (in behavior or health) and discharge. The herdsman on duty should always push feed up for the cows and scoop the manure to keep their beds as clean as possible.

Breeding:

The goal of this committee is to provide improvements of the genetics and reproductive performance of the herd. Their main job is to select sires (bulls) for the cows and making sure they are bred at the appropriate time. Some of the CREAM cows are genetically tested, so that information is used to help choose the best sire for them. Choosing a sire is based on the strengths and weaknesses of the cow. Some things to consider when choosing a sire is the predicted transmitting ability for milk (PTAM), udder composite (UDC), fertility index (FI), milk protein, and milk fat. These are the main characteristics to look for because the herd goal is to have well attached udders, good feet and legs, good overall type, and high milk production. Evaluating the cows individually is also needed for deciding on which cows to cull. Since this is a production business, cows are typically culled for factors including poor health, poor reproductive ability, and/or poor production. However, that decision is between members and the farm manager. Students are expected to keep track of the heat status of the animals. Heat detection is crucial for deciding an appropriate time to breed them.

Finance:

Finance committee is responsible for all the expenses and income that CREAM incurs. Milk checks come in twice a month and this is broken down to figure out how much the CREAM herd is earning based on their production. The main components finance deals with are heifer rent, CREAM rent, breeding costs, medical costs, dry cow rent, and feed cost. CREAM rent is paid monthly and all other expenses are paid weekly. Costs are calculated by the number of cows in the herd. Typically on a farm, feed cost is the greatest expense. It is important everything is calculated correctly because failure to do so may lead to major problems when trying to keep track of all the expenses.

Education and Planning:

This committee is in charge of planning events, outside of class activities, education sessions, presenters, field trips, and whatever they feel will fit along with the course. Since CREAM is a student-run class, it is important to have very good organization skills and be able to plan accordingly. They make sure every class is scheduled in advance and that it runs as smoothly as possible based on the class time (2 hours). Typically, business meetings are on Tuesday's. The planning committee is in charge of scheduling educational activities every Thursday. These activities can include student presentations, guest speakers, educational field trips, etc. They are also responsible for providing a timeline of when assignments are due throughout each semester.

Farm Facilities and Maintenance:

The Facilities committee is in charge of providing maintenance around the farm that may require extra attention. That can include cleaning specific areas that need it, adding additional bedding, cleaning windows or signs, etc. Basically, their job is to make sure the barn is as clean as possible because it will help provide a healthy environment for the people and the animals. They may also be asked to keep track of feed quality where they will have to take samples and run dry matters on them in the lab. In order to have a successful farm or business, it is important that everything is working properly and everything is kept as clean and organized as possible.

By: *Shae Granese*

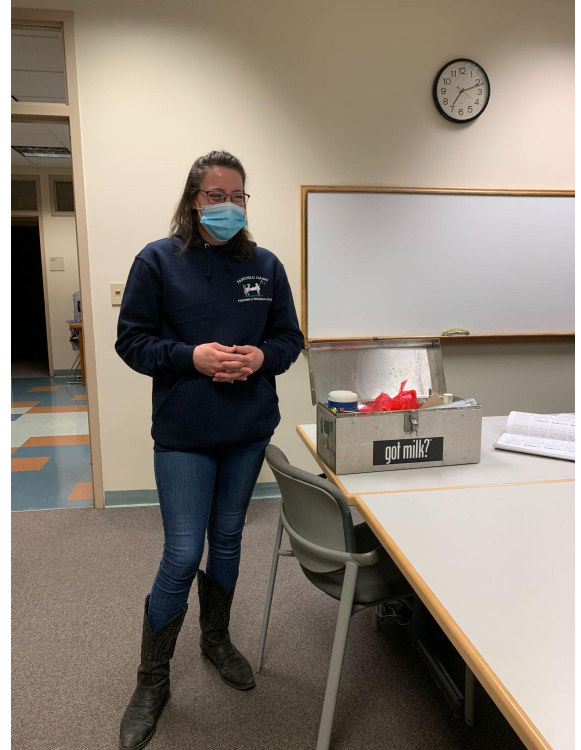
Udderly Funny: How do cows introduce their wives?

["Hey guys! Meat Patty"]

Guest Speaker Highlight

Rachel Dubanoski

Rachel is the assistant farm manager at the UNH Fairchild Dairy Teaching and Research Center. She graduated from UNH with a sustainable agriculture and food systems degree and then moved on to work at GENEX. Within GENEX, Rachel learned everything she needed to know as an artificial insemination (AI) technician and worked at Foster Brothers Farm, located in Middlebury, VT. Foster Brothers Farm is a robotic farm and Rachel was eventually hired at the farm as a herd manager and was also in charge of the milking system maintenance. Rachel provided us with information on how robotic farms work and how they differ from the conventional system that we have at the UNH Fairchild Dairy Farm.



Sire selection is the process of selecting a bull to improve the productivity of dairy production. Through this process, data is compiled on thousands of cows from specific bulls. The data provides information on the physicality of each cow and includes key traits such as milk, components, and calving ease.

By: Grace Bielez

Deerfield Fair Trip

On October 28th, CREAM took our first field trip of the year to the 144th annual Deerfield Fair. The Deerfield Fair is held on the last weekend in September every year at the Deerfield Fairgrounds in Deerfield, NH. This event is four days long and consists of several different attractions including livestock showing, draft horse pulling, live music, vendors, fair food, and much more!

We started off our trip by visiting the dairy, beef, and oxen barns. Several farms from the area bring their best animals and compete in several different classes. As a class that works



directly with Holstein dairy cows, it was very enriching to talk with these farmers and learn more about the industry! It was interesting to see the different breeds of cattle represented at the fair. We also visited the sheep where

we got to watch shearing and talk with the farmers. Several members of the class were able to visit the equine portion of the fair and meet a fellow CREAMers horse; pictured above. We also took time to visit the pigs, goats, and indulge in fair food! This field trip was an important aspect to the start of our year. Our class was able to learn about several different facets of agriculture and it allowed us to start bonding as a class, which is essential in CREAM!

By: Cheyenne Elliot



Udderly Funny: What do cows say when they hear a bad joke?

["I am not amoused"]

Classmate Connections

Although the class description of CREAM indicates the time commitment and importance of completing weekly chores, business meetings, forming additional committees, and managing the herd of holstein cows, the class could not be successful without friendships and connections built between the CREAMers inside and outside of class. There is a lot of teamwork and stress incorporated with CREAM, and the class can not be successful without a special connection between the classmates. Establishing friendships increases trust within the group, making members more comfortable to suggest new ideas, and less afraid of messing up and being judged by the rest of the class.

“Being friendly with your coworkers can provide more opportunities for collaboration and make it a less strenuous task. As friends, you and your colleagues may feel more comfortable sharing your opinions, offering expertise and working together” (Indeed Editorial, 2021).

One of the subcommittees created in CREAM is self-care, which focuses on prioritizing the mental, physical, and emotional health of all the students, as well as planning activities meant for team building and stress relief. So far in the semester, the class has



participated in minute-to-win-it competitions in teams of 5-6, and are in the process of playing a “Guess Who?” game to learn random facts about the CREAMers. The class in general has bonded by painting pumpkins for Halloween, participating in a costume contest with themselves and their cows, taking impromptu trips to Dairy Queen after class, and are planning a potluck prior to Thanksgiving Break.

Feeling close to classmates makes attending CREAM a lot more enjoyable, as well as attending shifts at 4:15 in the morning. Especially considering CREAM is a full



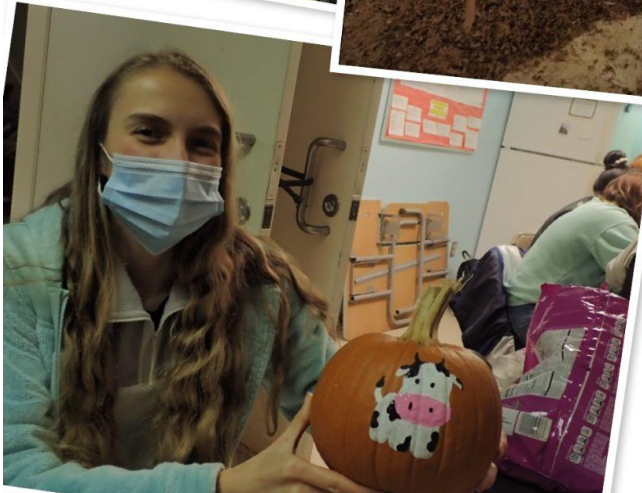
year course, it is important and essential for all the students to feel comfortable, welcome, and supported by their classmates.

References:

Indeed Editorial. August, 2021. Pros and Cons To Consider When Becoming Friends With Coworkers. Career Development.

By: Kelsi Devolve

Halloween Activities!



Cow Games

F U D B Z X I Z B B Q R A G U
M L D I M U R T S O L O C N J
R P A D L U I D M W T K L I U
T W I C E U F A U C I O C K F
V M O L M R T S H A L B G L S
D F E A B E R H J D E X C I R
M V E E R T O U A U H D F M P
E R Z N I L E M Y O M C R X I
C L I R S Y V Y L J E Y R V R
V T R T J G H K O S Z E S F B
Y A E S B U A A R I H Z J P V
Z I W H E I F E R K V U C O R
N S N I E T O R P R N D A B E
Y M U X G C X H H I G L C R O
I J C A P L X L O V M U W H F



Word Bank: Calf, Heifer, Maternity, Udder, Colostrum,

Holstein, Milking, Cream, Jaylor, Protein



F U D B Z X I Z B B Q R A G U
M L D I M U R T S O L O C N J
R P A D L U I D M W T K L I U
T W I C E U F A U C I O C K F
V M O L M R T S H A L B G L S
D F E A B E R H J D E X C I R
M V E E R T O U A U H D F M P
E R Z N I L E M Y O M C R X I
C L I R S Y V Y L J E Y R V R
V T R T J G H K O S Z E S F B
Y A E S B U A A R I H Z J P V
Z I W H E I F E R K V U C O R
N S N I E T O R P R N D A B E
Y M U X G C X H H I G L C R O
I J C A P L X L O V M U W H F

Answers:

By: Grace Finch

