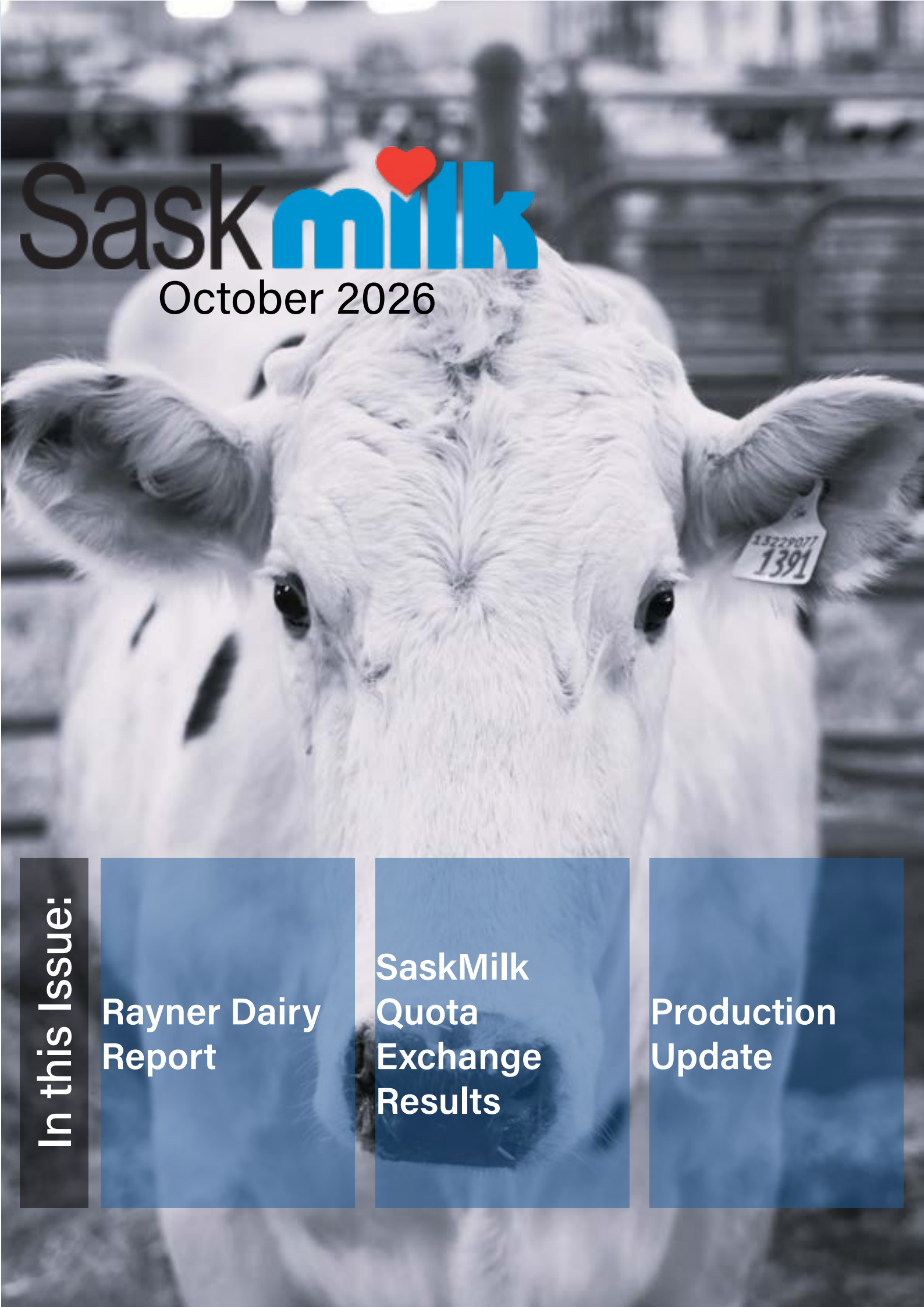




Sask milk

October 2026

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INDUSTRY UPDATES

FOR	CONTACT	AT
Legislation Orders Policies Program Development Projections for production	Ashley Egyedy	(306) 535-1930
Sponsorship Requests Donation Requests Dairyanna's Costume and Events School Milk Program Nutrition Resource Ordering Social media enquiries (Twitter, Instagram, Facebook) Promotional Items	Breann Eberle	(306) 535-8890
Website enquiries Newsletter advertising Sponsorship requests Dairy Conference Quota Exchange and Private Quota Transfers Leases Transfer Credits Security Applications Projections for production Designation of Signing Authority Monthly production numbers for producers	Cailyn Jones	(306) 540-3639
Trade agreements, international trade updates Quota Issuance and Production	Chera Coates	(306) 721-9485
On Farm- licensing, facilities, equipment, driveways, yards, animal care Milk pickups, communication of milk pickup delays or issues Milk Transportation Milk Graders- licensing, complaints/issues Bulk tank calibrations Environment and Regulatory	Chris Pinno	(306) 537-2459
Producer statements Banking info for direct deposit of milk pay Milk pick-up issues –variances in volumes, planning to quit shipping, etc. SaskMilk Portal Assistance Dairy Conference	Jenn Buehler	(306) 721-9492
Website inquiries Media or news stories or if you have been contacted by any media agency or reporter	Julie Ell	(306) 519-3136
General Inquiries Portal Support Information on registrations/details on SaskMilk producer events.	Michelle Belanger	(306) 721-9490
On Farm- licensing, facilities, equipment, driveways, yards, animal care Lab testing results Pro Action- Food Safety (CQM), Animal Care, Traceability, Biosecurity, Environment Extension services Research enquires	Tina Leverton	(306) 570-4747

Soon! Fall Producer Meetings

October 26th - Warman Brian King Centre 202 8th Ave N Warman, SK	October 27th - Swift Current F.O.E. Eagles 1910 S Service Rd. W Swift Current, SK	October 28th - White City White City Community Centre 12 Ramm Ave White City, SK
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2026 Saskatchewan Dairy Conference and Annual General Meeting

When: November 9 & 10, 2026

Where: Saskatoon Inn & Conference Centre

Please register for the conference [HERE](#), by October 20th!

Reminder!

The deadline date for Quota Transfers and Quota Exchange is the 6th of each month.

Your Quota Transfer must be received on or before the 6th of the month in order to be effective the 1st of the following month.

Quota Exchange forms must be received in the SaskMilk office on or before the 6th of the month for that month's Exchange.

SASKATCHEWAN MILK POOL RESULTS OCTOBER 2026		WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMPONENT TESTS & PRICES OCTOBER 2026		
Revenue	\$25,673,203.67	COMPONENTS	AVERAGE TEST	PRICE PER KILOGRAM CLASS 1 TO 5
WMP Revenue (expense)	\$(469,319.87)	Butterfat	4.4130	\$16.176414
Total Pool	\$25,203,883.80	Protein	3.3833	\$7.535570
		Other Solids	5.9210	\$0.861188

The average butterfat price received per kilogram was \$23.11



RAYNER DAIRY REPORT

Feeding strategies for Holstein steers and beef x dairy calves

By Erika Cornand, Stephanie Terry, Gabriel Ribeiro, and Greg Penner

Many producers have adopted crossbreeding programs to help improve the value of calves that are not intended for replacement. Some producers also have ventured into the beef business by retaining ownership of calves selling them after weaning or as finished cattle. A question that has often been asked is whether these calves should be provided time for slow growth or fed to finish directly after weaning. In the beef industry, a period of moderate growth (also known as backgrounding) has been used to allow for frame growth. The moderate rate of growth can be used to manage when cattle will be ready for finishing helping to spread marketing dates and achieve desired carcass characteristics. From a dairy perspective, implementing a moderate growth phase may allow for the dairy to 'sell' TMR refusals from lactating cows to the beef enterprise thereby providing a cost-effective feed source.

PhD student Erika Cornand set out to compare performance responses for Holstein steers, beefxHolstein steers, and beefxHolstein heifers when fed for moderate (1.2 kg/d) or rapid growth (1.9 kg/d) from weaning to 350 kg and to compare their performance responses from 350 kg to slaughter. This study design also allowed for the comparison of breed effects; specifically, what are the differences between Holstein steers and beefxHolstein steers in terms of performance outcomes.

On a dry matter basis, the moderate-gain grower diets contained 63 per cent corn silage, with 15% crude protein and 28% starch. The rapid-gain grower diets contained 15% crude protein and 48% starch. Calves started the study at 200 kg and were fed their respective growing diets until they reached approximately 350 kg. A weight of 350 kg was chosen as some producers have expressed interest to sell calves between 300 and 400 kg rather than feeding them to slaughter. For this study, all cattle were then transitioned onto a common finishing diet and remained on feed until steers averaged 740 kg and heifers average 700 kg. Cattle were then shipped for slaughter, and carcass characteristics were evaluated.

What did we learn?

200 kg to 350 kg

As could be expected, during the growing phase, calves that were fed for moderate gain consumed more feed (8.1 kg/d for moderate gain vs. 7.8 kg/d for rapid gain), grew slower (1.62 for moderate gain vs. 1.76 kg/d for rapid gain), and consequently moderate gain calves had poorer feed efficiency. This mean that the growing phase was on average 105 d for moderate gain calves vs. 80 d for rapid gain calves. Total cost of gain was calculated which included feed cost, yardage, and bedding costs resulting in \$2.09/kg gain for both treatments. The feed costs were based on purchase price and did not include a 'discount' applied if producers were selling a portion of their TMR refusals to the calves. Thus, producers adopting moderate gain feeding strategies will require more feed, more days on feed, and more pen space as calves will be on farm longer to achieve the same end weight. However, if selling TMR refusals from the milking herd to be

200 kg to finish

When considering the whole feeding period, there were no differences for feed intake, but rapid gain cattle grew faster overall (1.60 kg/d for moderate gain vs. 1.65 kg/d for rapid gain). Hot carcass weight did not differ among feeding programs and neither did dressing percentage. However, calves fed for rapid gain had greater marbling scores than those fed for moderate gain. In this study, cattle were priced on a rail basis, and total net return was \$1,121 vs. \$1,109/animal for moderate and rapid gain, respectively.

Crossbreds outperformed straight-bred Holsteins

In addition to the diet effects described above, there were very clear breed effects. In fact, beefxHolstein steers and even beefxHolstein heifers performed better than Holstein steers in the growing phase, finishing phase, and overall. Overall, Holstein steers took 359 days on feed compared to 316 for the beef x Holstein cross-bred steers and heifers. Holstein steers had the lowest average daily gain (1.53kg/d for Holstein steers vs. 1.76 kg/d for beefxHolstein steers vs. 1.58 kg/d for beefxHolstein heifers), and poorest efficiency of gain. Despite having similar live body weight, Holstein steers also had lighter carcass weight due to lower dressing percentage. From a carcass perspective, the ribeye area of Holstein steers was smaller than beefxHolstein steers and heifers. As a result, carcass value (rail basis) was substantially lower for Holstein steers than beefxHolstein steers and heifers. From a net return basis, Holstein steers averaged \$1,087/animal while beefxHolstein steers were \$1,183 and heifers were \$1,076.

How do you apply this information?

For producers feeding calves to 350 kg, providing a diet supporting moderate growth may be a viable strategy to add additional value to calves while accounting for low-cost feeds such as TMR refusals or poorer quality silage. However, a moderate growth program could be expected to increase feed requirements during the growing phase and take longer for calves to achieve sale weight.

For producers finishing cattle, maintaining rapid gain from birth to slaughter could be expected to improve growth rate, marbling score, and backfat thickness, but may not enhance carcass value unless selling on a grid basis.

Regardless of strategy, this study highlighted positive impacts on growth performance, feed efficiency, and value of beefxHolstein calves relative to Holstein steers.

More information on the research can be obtained by email at greg.penner@usask.ca

This research was supported by *Alberta Milk, SaskMilk, and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture through the Agriculture Development Fund, in partnership with the Government of Canada through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership.*

OCTOBER 2026

QUOTA EXCHANGE

The next Quota Exchange will be held on **November 15, 2026**. All offers to sell and bids to purchase quota through the Quota Exchange must be submitted by midnight, **November 6, 2026**. SaskMilk recommends that offers and bids be submitted well in advance of the deadline date to ensure adequate time for corrections, if necessary.

When making bids on the Quota Exchange, the price on offers to sell quota is the minimum price that the producer is prepared to accept for that quota. Only if the market-clearing price is equal to or greater than the producer’s minimum price will that producer qualify for participation in the Exchange.

Conversely, the price on offers to purchase quota is the maximum price that the producer is prepared to pay for that quota. Only if the market-clearing price is equal to or less than the producer’s maximum price will that producer qualify for participation in the Exchange.

The clearing price is set at the price where the smallest difference exists between the accumulated volume offered for sale and the accumulated volume bid to purchase. The results of the Quota Exchange are outlined in the following table.

OCTOBER 2026 QUOTA EXCHANGE RESULTS	
Market Clearing Price per kilogram of butterfat	\$45,000.00
Daily Kilograms offered to Purchase	76.88
Kilograms offered to Sell	41.33
Kilograms sold	10.00
Number of Producers	
- offered to purchase	8
- purchased quota	1
- offered to sell	6
- sold quota	2

The market-clearing price established for the October 2026 Quota Exchange was \$45,000.00

QUOTA EXCHANGE CLEARING PRICE RESULTS									
Price (\$/daily kg b.f.)	No. of Sell-ers	Cumu-lative sellers	Daily Kgs b.f. offered for sale	Cumulative sales	Cumula-tive Sales less Cu-mulative purchases	Cumulative purchases	Daily Kgs b.f. offered to pur-chase	Cumulative bidders	No. of buyers
\$40,500.00	1	1	0.07	0.07	-76.81	76.88	0.00	8	0
\$42,000.00	0	1	0.00	0.07	-76.81	76.88	6.88	8	1
\$43,550.00	0	1	0.00	0.07	-69.93	70.00	10.00	7	1
\$44,000.00	0	1	0.00	0.07	-59.93	60.00	10.00	6	1
\$44,050.00	0	1	0.00	0.07	-49.93	50.00	10.00	5	1
\$44,100.00	0	1	0.00	0.07	-39.93	40.00	10.00	4	1
\$44,800.00	0	1	0.00	0.07	-29.93	30.00	10.00	3	1
\$44,900.00	0	1	0.00	0.07	-19.93	20.00	10.00	2	1
\$45,000.00	1	2	15.00	15.07	5.07	10.00	10.00	1	1
\$46,000.00	1	3	4.00	19.07	19.07	0.00	0.00	0	0
\$47,000.00	1	4	8.83	27.90	27.90	0.00	0.00	0	0
\$47,500.00	1	5	4.00	31.90	31.90	0.00	0.00	0	0
\$55,000.00	1	6	9.43	41.33	41.33	0.00	0.00	0	0

Please contact Cailyn Jones at 306-949-6999 for inquiries dealing with quota management sheets, the Quota Exchange, for transfer credits, or with any other quota transactions.

LOST OPPORTUNITY REPORT		
MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS	LOST OPPORTUNITY (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
September 2025	1	655
October 2025	12	488
November 2025	2	217
December 2025	2	404
January 2026	3	614
February 2026	2	142
March 2026	1	161
April 2026	1	21
May 2026	1	5
June 2026	0	0
July 2026	0	0
August 2026	0	0
September 2026	1	6.57

TRANSFER CREDIT SUMMARY REPORT			
MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS TRANSFER IN	# OF PRODUCERS TRANSFER OUT	TOTAL KGS OF BUTTERFAT
September 2025	24	24	27,690.00
October 2025	33	33	36,484.00
November 2025	30	31	31,435.00
December 2025	14	14	8,421.00
January 2026	21	21	18,275.00
February 2026	18	18	17,301.00
March 2026	17	17	13,091.00
April 2026	8	8	7,430.00
April 2026	8	8	7,430.00
June 2026	11	11	7,093.00
July 2026	11	11	13,645.00
August 2026	14	14	14,965.00
September	21	21	18,908.00

PRIVATE TRANSFERS PROCESSED	
MONTH	DAILY KILOGRAMS
September 2025	14.30
October 2025	0.00
November 2025	0.00
December 2025	0.00
January 2026	0.00
February 2026	0.00
March 2026	0.00
April 2026	0.00
May 2026	240.00
June 2026	0.00
July 2026	0.00
August 2026	0.00
September 2026	151.54

OVER QUOTA (OVER 5 DAYS) REPORT BY MONTH		
MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS	KGS BUTTERFAT
September 2025	5	97
October 2025	3	102
November 2025	8	1,103
December 2025	4	1,700
January 2026	8	884
February 2026	10	1,166
March 2026	10	758
April 2026	11	575
May 2026	6	443
June 2026	9	421
July 2026	5	147
August 2026	4	189
September 2026	6	808

SEPTEMBER SUMMARY REPORT OF CREDITS - 138 PRODUCERS		
DAYS	# OF PRODUCERS	POSITIVE CREDITS ACCUMULATED (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
+ 5	6	7,167.45
0 to + 5	48	28,105.22
TOTAL	54	35,272.67
DAYS	# OF PRODUCERS	NEGATIVE CREDITS ACCUMULATED (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
0 to -5	40	-25,990.13
-5 to -10	31	-81,876.94
-10 to -15	12	-32,940.57
-15	1	-1,180.05
TOTAL	84	-141,987.70

Test stations are located at the following locations:			
Location	Address	Hours	Contact
Saputo	122 Wakooma Street, Saskatoon, SK	Monday to Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm	N/A
Warman Veterinary Services	86 Great Plains Rd, 100A Crystal Springs Dr, Warman SK	After Hours	306-347-9995
Star City Colony		After Hours	Ruben Tschetter 306-921-9381
Osler Dairy		After Hours	Tim Enns 306 281-7547

SK Production Update

	(1) Monthly Total Production Kgs of bf	(2) Total Monthly CDC Quota Allocation Kgs bf	(3) Monthly Over or (Under) Production Kgs bf col. 1 – 2 = 3	(4) Lower Flexibility Limit -2.00% Kgs bf col. 8 * -2.0%	(5) Upper Flexibility Limit 1.25% Kgs bf col. 8 *1.25%	(6) Cumulative Over or (Under) Production with limits Kgs bf	(7) Cumulative Over or (Under) Production with limits (%) col. 6 / 8	(8) Rolling 12 Month Total Quota Kgs bf
Aug-25	1,165,184	1,154,985	10,199	-266,231	166,394	1,220,969	9.17%	13,311,549
Sep-25	1,136,548	1,194,114	(57,566)	-267,713	167,321	1,163,403	8.69%	13,385,673
Oct-25	1,185,500	1,205,883	(20,383)	-267,293	167,058	1,143,020	8.55%	13,364,644
Nov-25	1,145,433	1,199,932	(54,499)	-269,200	168,250	1,088,521	8.09%	13,460,010
Dec-25	1,171,770	1,143,106	28,664	-269,771	168,607	1,117,185	8.28%	13,488,525
Jan-26	1,164,659	1,019,560	145,099	-269,120	168,200	1,262,284	9.38%	13,455,981
Feb-26	1,045,416	1,044,562	854	-271,245	169,528	1,263,138	9.31%	13,562,234
Mar-26	1,139,140	1,254,862	(115,722)	-273,670	171,044	1,147,416	8.39%	13,683,512
Apr-26	1,091,083	1,059,188	31,895	-272,937	170,585	1,179,311	8.64%	13,646,829
May-26	1,115,459	1,112,363	3,096	-271,234	169,521	1,182,407	8.72%	13,561,695
Jun-26	1,073,085	1,099,391	-26,306	-272,980	170,613	1,156,101	8.47%	13,649,005
Jul-26	1,085,440	1,180,498	-95,059	-273,369	170,856	1,061,043	7.76%	13,668,444
Aug-26	1,102,156	1,179,026	-76,870	-273,850	171,156	984,173	7.19%	13,692,485

In August, Saskatchewan had a monthly CDC allocation of 1,179,026 kilograms of butterfat. Saskatchewan production was 76,870 kgs of butterfat under and cumulatively over by 984,173 kgs of butterfat. On a percentage basis, Saskatchewan is 7.19% above our CDC allocation flexibility limits based on the Continuous Quota model. The -2.00% lower flexibility limit is in effect.

- (1) Monthly Production in Saskatchewan
- (2) Total Monthly Quota = Class 1 sales + Monthly MSQ + Carry Forward
- (3) Difference between the monthly production (1) and the total monthly quota (2)
- (4) The Lower Flexibility Limit is -2.00% of Rolling 12 Month Total Quota (9)
- (5) The Upper Flexibility Limit is 1.25% of Rolling 12 Month Total Quota (9)
- (6) Previous Month Cumulative Over or (Under) Production + Current Monthly Over or (Under) Production (capped at lower or upper limit if applicable)
- (7) Equal to Column (6) expressed as a percentage basis within the flexibility limits
- (8) Total Monthly CDC Quota Allocation for the previous 12 months

Foundations: Dairy Executive Training Financial Intensive

Understand Your Numbers. Strengthen Your Decisions

A practical, two-day financial workshop designed specifically for Canadian dairy producers.



February 9 & 10, 2027; WestGen - Abbotsford, BC

What You'll Learn



DAY 1

Economics & Your Dairy Business

Understand what drives profit and how supply management changes the economics of dairy decision-making.

Explore budgets, "behind-the-cow" math, income statements, and key financial indicators that can help guide better production decisions.



DAY 2

Capital, Enterprise Accounting & Case Studies

Learn how assets, liabilities and leverage impact your dairy business and how enterprise accounting can uncover financial bottlenecks.

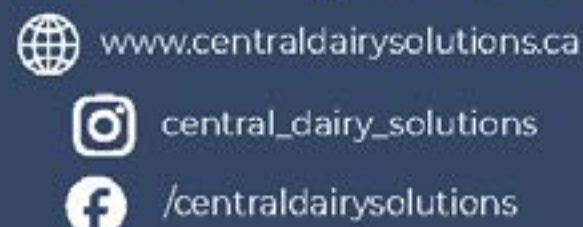
Use benchmarking and case studies to identify opportunities and strengthen your financial plan.

A practical, Interactive Workshop

LEARN | APPLY | DISCUSS

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FOUNDATIONS DAIRY EXECUTIVE TRAINING: FINANCIAL INTENSIVE

This is a condensed, 2 day version of our executive training school that focuses on financial understanding for Canadian dairy producers. Each day starts at 8:30 AM and concludes by 5:00 PM.

DAY 1: ECONOMICS AND YOUR DAIRY BUSINESS

- Set the expectations and ground rules for effective sessions
- Discuss how all businesses increase profit and how this is different with Supply Management
- Introduce partial budgets and behind-the-cow math, and what adjustments you need for a quota system
- Discover the difference between tax, financial and economic planning, and how to read your Income statement
- Discuss what key performance indicators are associated with financial efficiency and learn how they can be used to make better production decisions.

DAY 2: CAPITAL, ENTERPRISE ACCOUNTING, AND CASE STUDIES

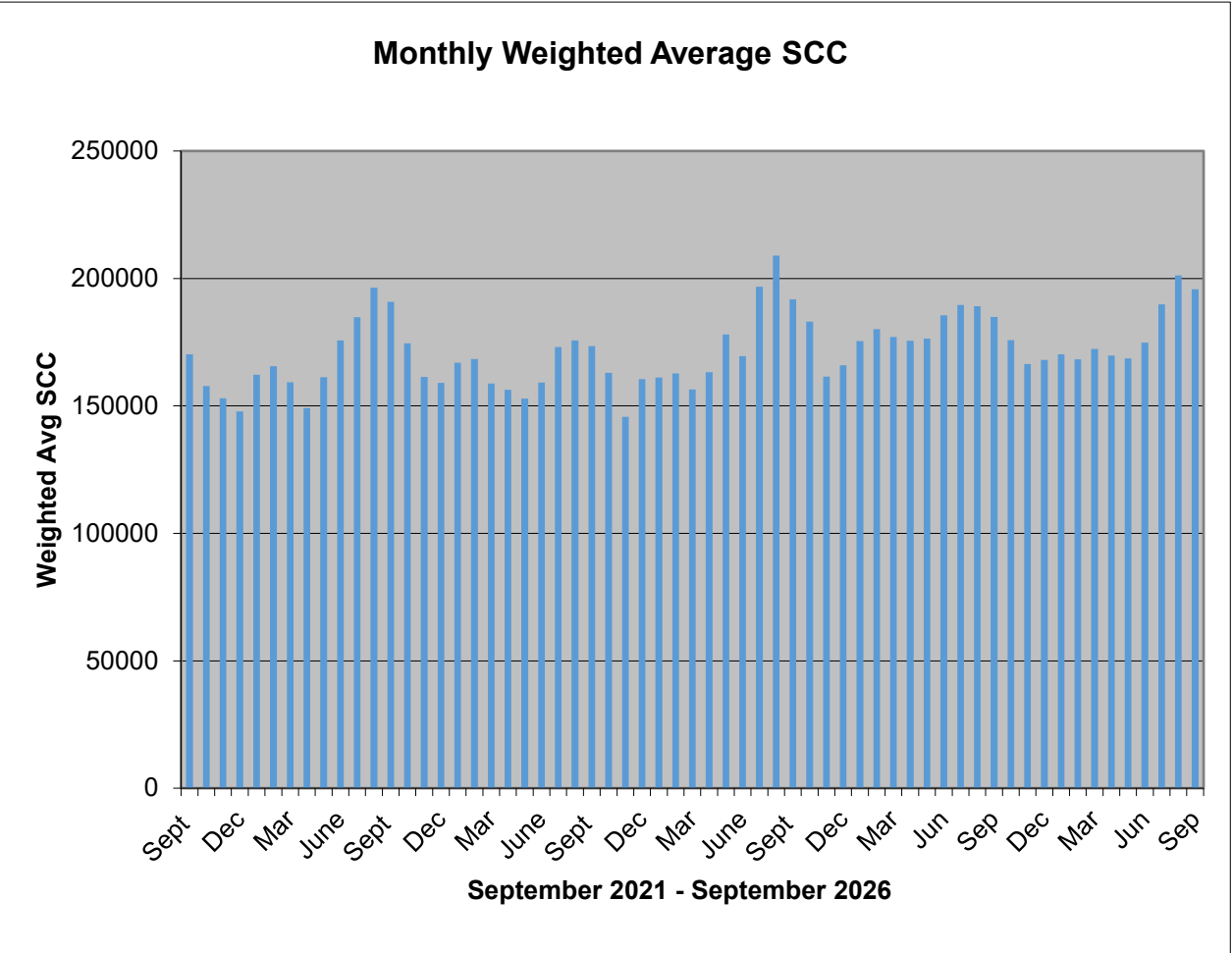
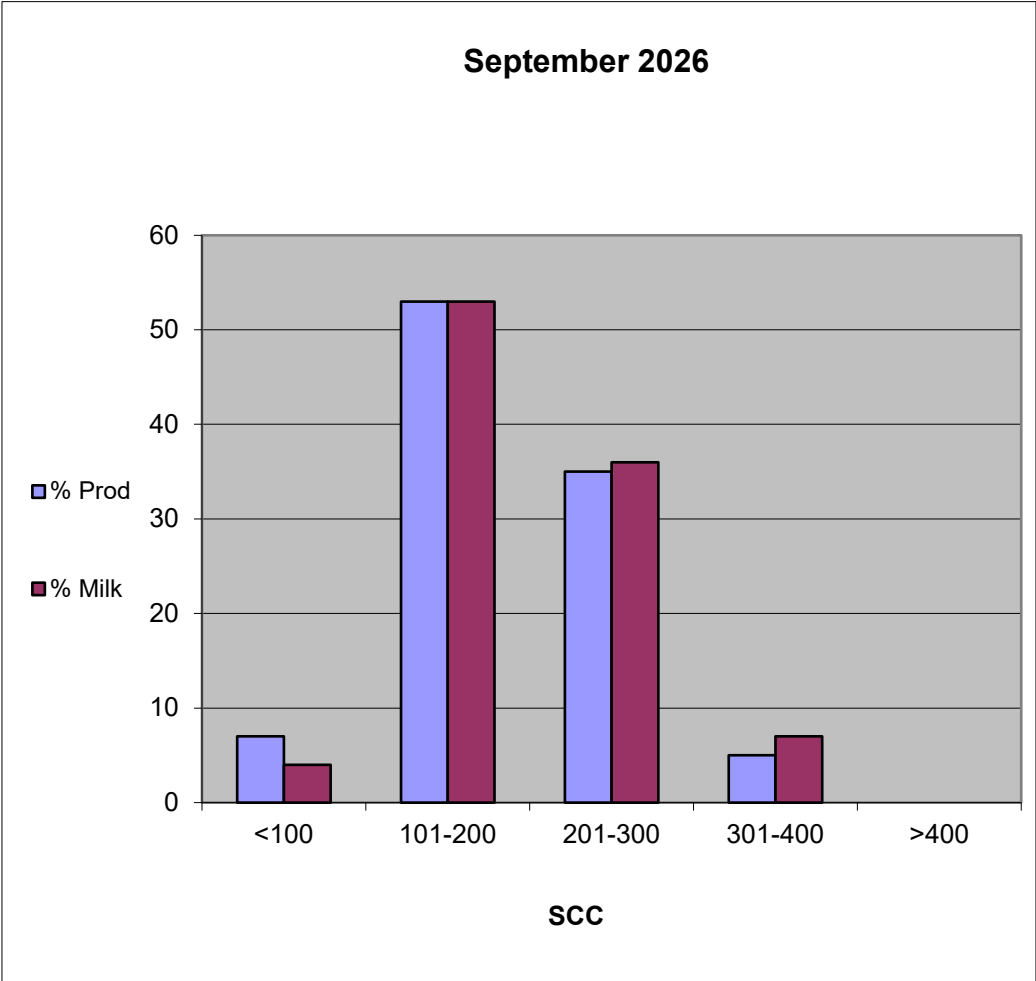
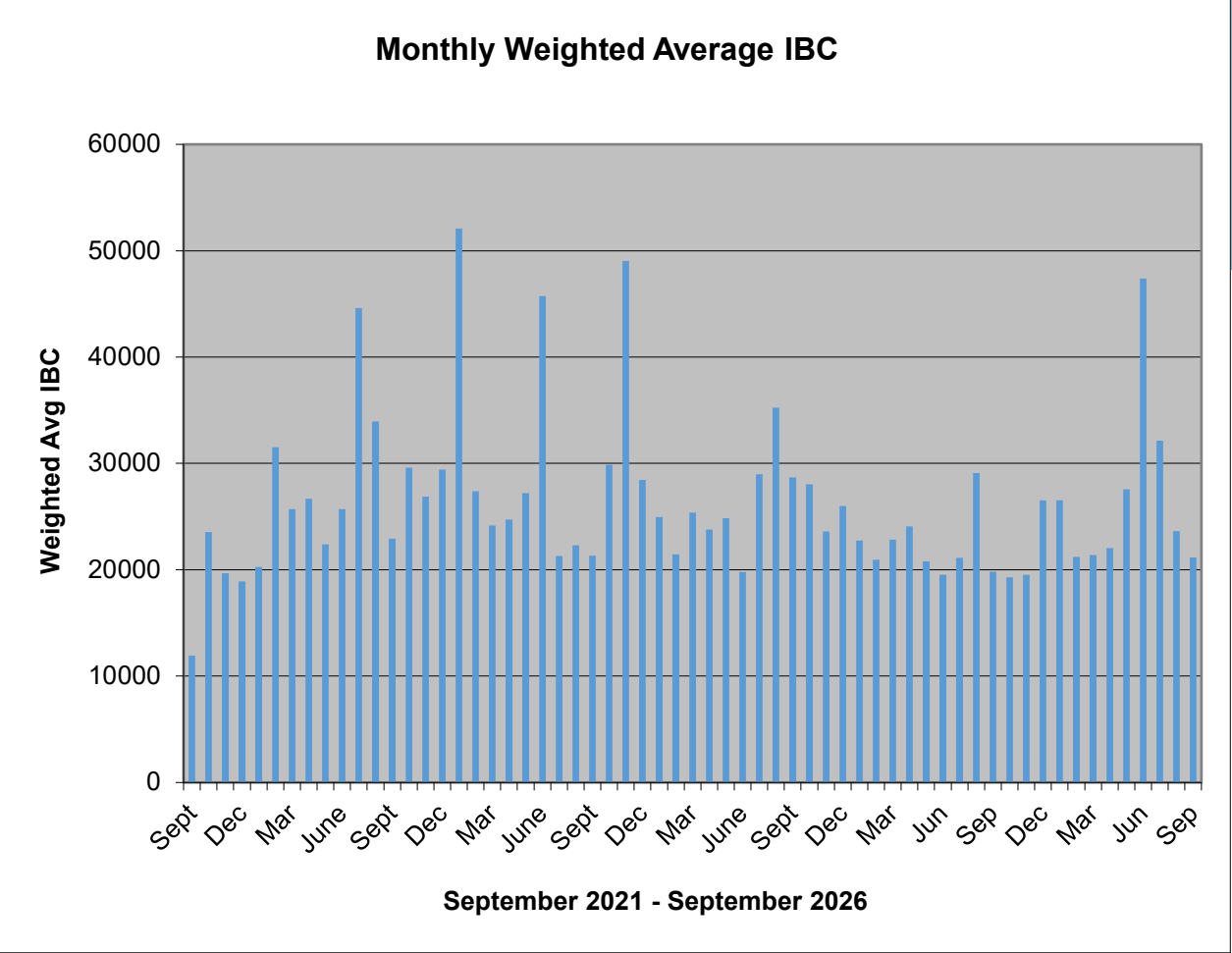
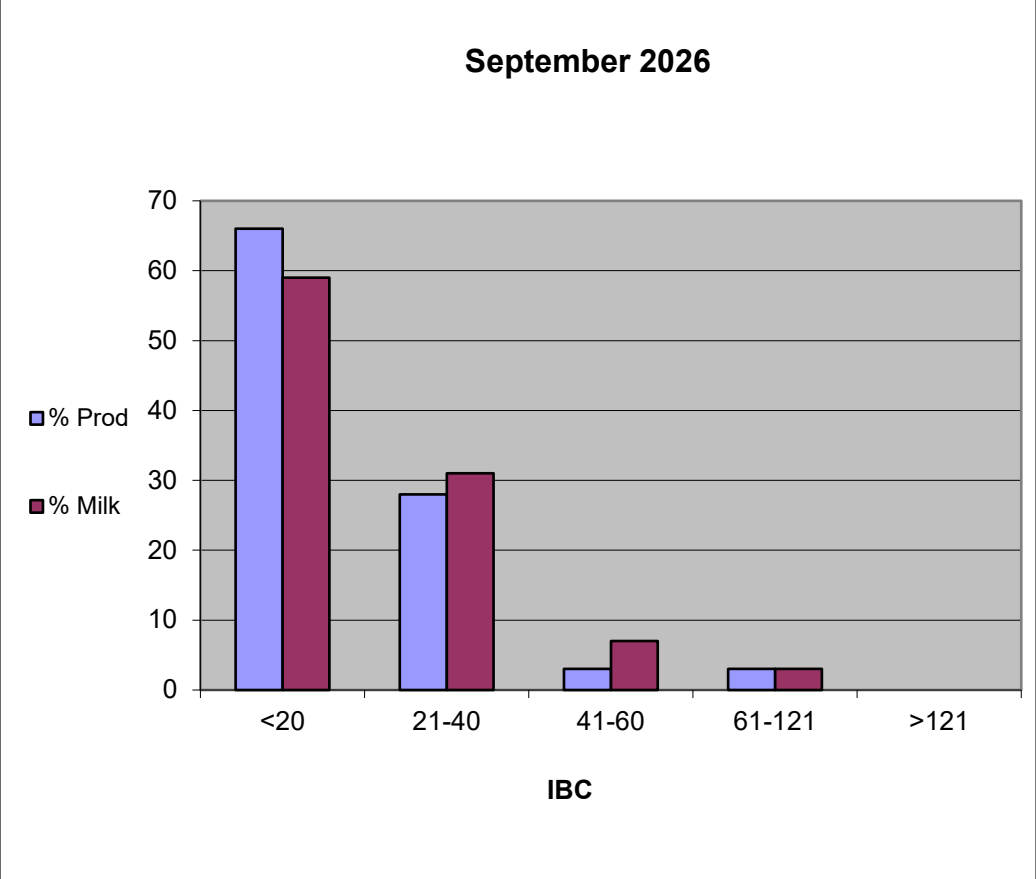
- Learn about assets, liabilities, and leverage, and how value is created
- Learn why other businesses think in enterprises
- Discuss how thinking in enterprises can help uncover your financial bottlenecks
- Understand how benchmarking and case studies can help you build a better financial plan for your farm
- Participants are encouraged to bring their own financial statements for reference (you will not be asked to share these with the group)

Our training sessions are hosted in a workshop format, with enrollment limited to promote interaction. Case studies will be used extensively and participants will work in teams.

Ready to connect?



SK Quality Milk



Quality Bonus

To get the quality bonus producers must have:
Monthly Average:
IBC - <= 30,000/ ml
SCC- <= 250,000/ml
FPt- lower than -0.525°Hortvet
No positive inhibitors

CLASSIFIED ADS

SaskMilk offers a free classifieds service as part of its newsletter. Anyone wishing to place an ad is welcome to contact the SaskMilk office at (306) 949-6999 or info@saskmilk.ca. All negotiations will be independent of SaskMilk. Please note that ads will be posted in two issues and will then be removed unless SaskMilk is notified otherwise.

SaskMilk Board & General Manager

Teresa Florizone
General Manager
(306) 721-9480
Cell: (306) 527-7458
teresa.florizone@saskmilk.ca

Gordon Ell
Chair
(306) 535-1922
Gord.Ell@saskmilk.ca

Merlis Wiebe
Vice Chair
(306) 229-0696
Merlis.Wiebe@saskmilk.ca

Derek Westeringh
Second Vice Chair
(306) 716-1959
Derek.Wersteringh@saskmilk.ca

Ryan Enns
(306) 220-7993
Ryan.Enns@saskmilk.ca

Melvin Foth
(306) 232-3462
Mel.Foth@saskmilk.ca

Leonard Kleinsasser
(306) 294-7812
Leonard.Kleinsasser@saskmilk.ca

Tymen Vanzessen
(306) 361-7551
Tymen.Vanzessen@saskmilk.ca

