

**The transition period is from dry date to 40 days after calving.**

Superior management of the transition period enables cows to begin lactations ready to meet or exceed genetic capabilities.

Management Monitors: These seven monitors for management of the transition period enable managers to focus on the logical challenges including dry periods, first milk, fat protein ratio, udder health, days to first breeding, survival and stress. Use these measures to identify areas of focus in transition cow management.

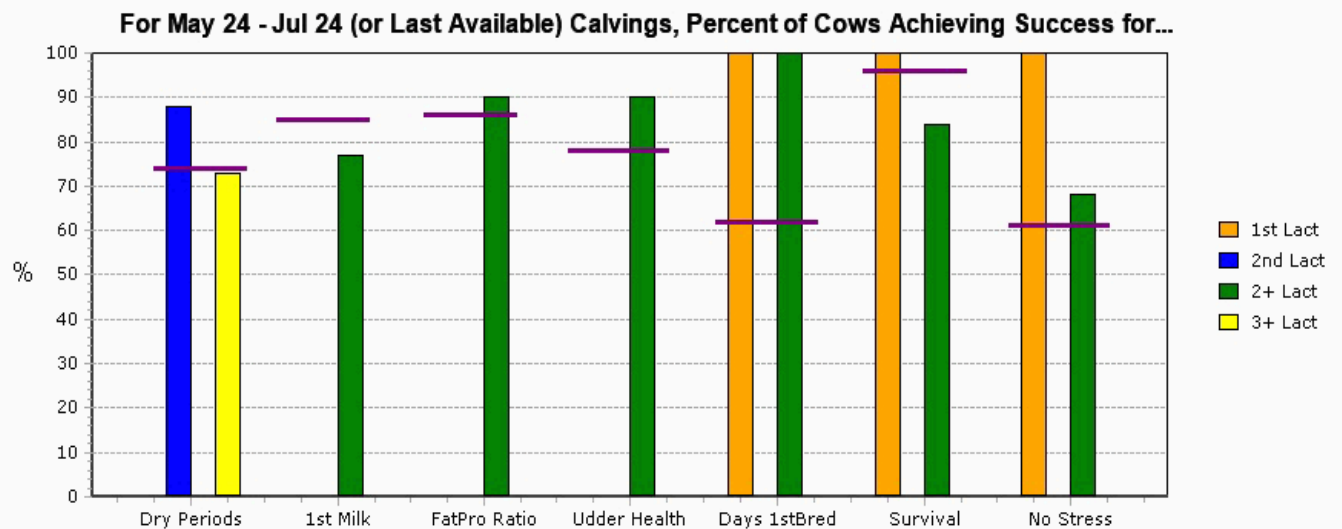
This report assesses information by CALVING PERIOD. Each period includes all cows that have calved. Because it is important to draw conclusions and make management decisions based on sufficient information, cows were grouped according to the average number that calved per month in the past year: 40 or more calvings = monthly; 20 to 39 = bi-monthly, and; less than 20 = quarterly. For comparison, each graph also includes the last corresponding Calving Period from the previous year.

For each Management Monitor, a 100 point scale indicates the level of success. This consistent measure of performance enables a methodical and quick assessment of progress toward goals. Goals are set at the success level in each monitor achieved by the top 10% of herds similar in size to yours. Although the goal of each Management Monitor might be different, in all cases, a tall bar on the chart is better than a short bar. And, 100% means that the management team has achieved a level of management of the transition period that optimizes success.

Please notice that two management monitors are not available as quickly as others. For Reproduction, information is not available until after Voluntary Waiting Period (VWP) plus 30 days. Survival information is not available until 60 days after calving. These graphs will display calving periods that are different from the other graphs.

Overview Which elements of Transition Cow Management are working well?

This graph includes one set of bars for each of the seven Management Monitors on the following pages. The colored bars represent the performance for cows that calved in the most recent period. The purple line on each bar marks the performance of the top 10% herds for the specific Management Monitor. Performance higher than the purple line means that yours is a "top herd", and, lower performance indicates an opportunity for improvement. This graph should identify area(s) that deserve management attention in the most recent period. Use graphs and tables on the following pages for more information.



For all graphs except Fat Protein Ratio and Udder Health, the numbers of cows assessed in each period are summarized in the table below. For Fat Protein Ratio and Udder Health, an additional table of cow counts is included following the appropriate section to allow an assessment of the "power" of the bars on the graphs. If the number of cows included is less than 25 and less than 66% of the cows that calved have sample data, then the bars are displayed with "low confidence" indicators.

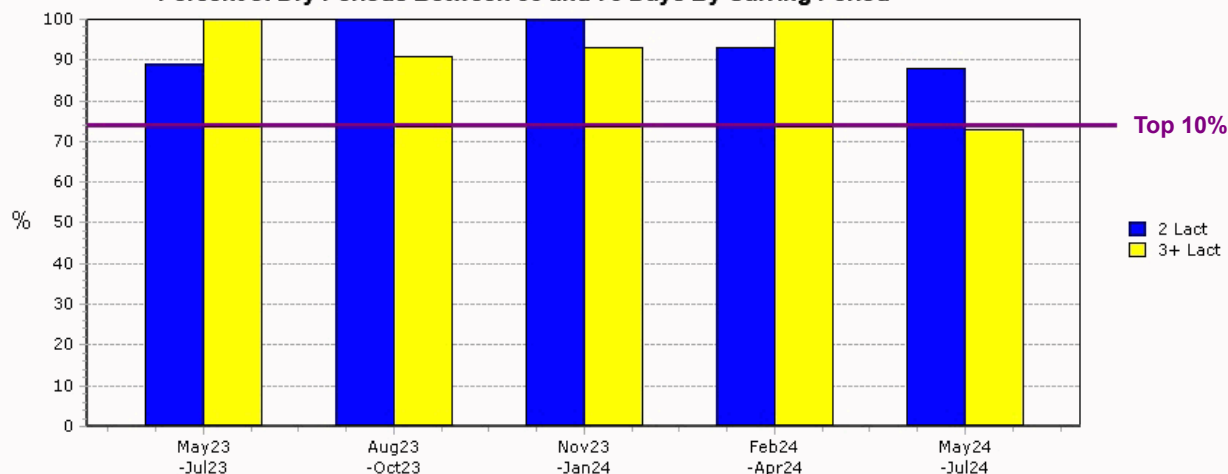
Number of Cows Calved

	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	May-Jul
# 1st Lact Calved	20	12	18	4	1
# 2+ Lact Calved	27	17	20	26	19

Dry Periods Were they the proper length?

Research into shortened dry periods suggested 30 days has advantages. However, several studies found dry periods shorter than 30 days resulted in 5% to 15% reduced milk production. Dry periods longer than 70 days resulted in 10% less of milk.

Percent of Dry Periods Between 30 and 70 Days By Calving Period



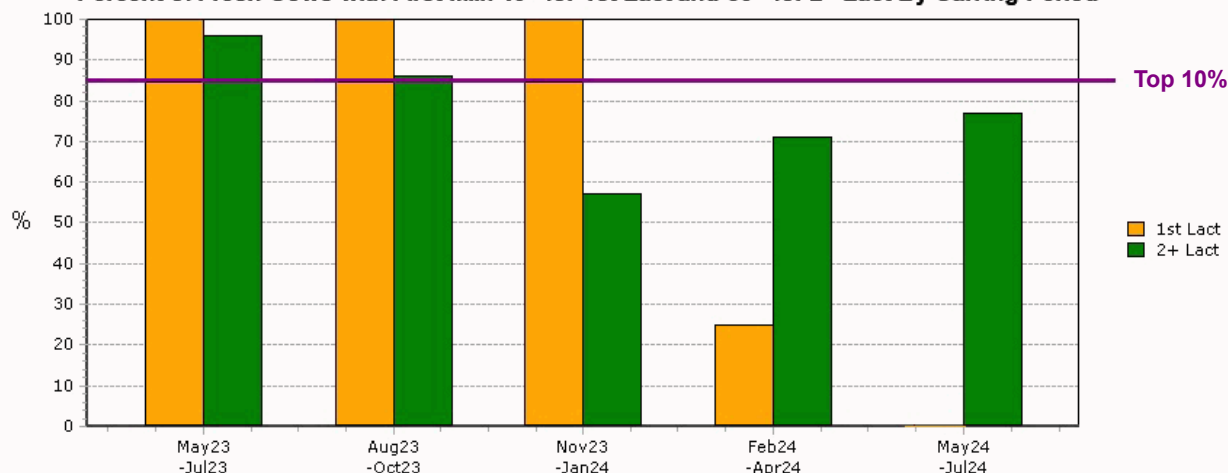
Percent of Dry Periods Outside 30 to 70 day Range for 2+ Lactation

	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	May-Jul
< 30 Days	4	6	5	4	11
> 70 Days					11
> 120 Days					

First Milk Are fresh cows producing well?

Early lactation milk provides clear insight to how well cows survived the transition period. Low or zero milk on the first test day prior to 40 days indicates problems that could be caused by several factors. Higher milk prior to 40 days indicates that dry matter intake is increasing properly following calving, and, high milk can make it easier for cows to reach their potential for peak milk.

Percent of Fresh Cows with First Milk 40+ for 1st Lact and 50+ for 2+ Lact By Calving Period



	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	May-Jul
# 1st Included	20	7	2	4	
# 2+ Included	23	7	7	17	13

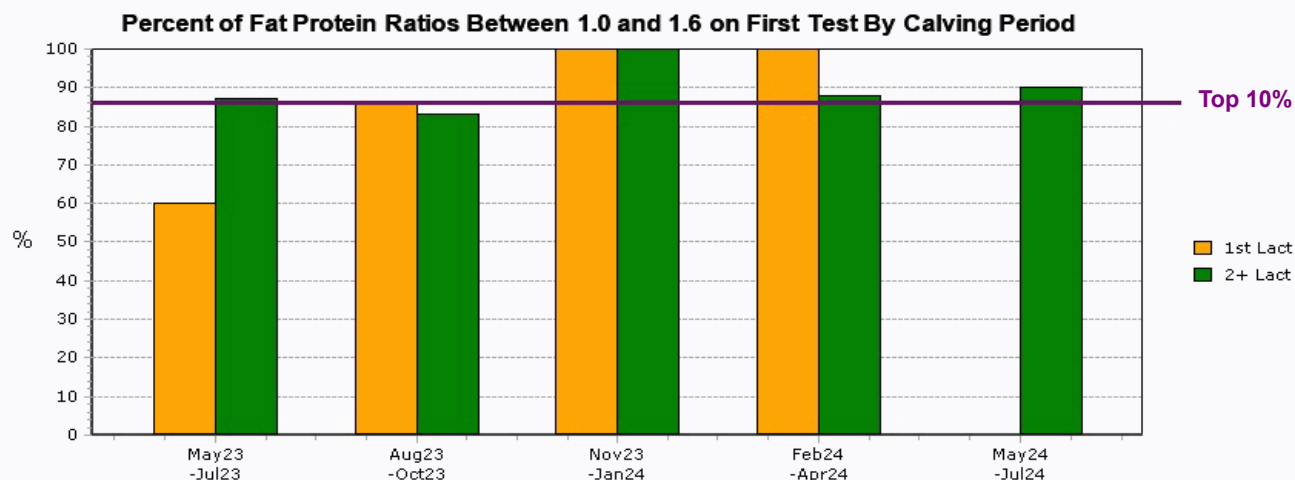
Percent of Fresh Cows in May24 - Jul24 With First Milk...

	< 20 lbs	< 30 lbs	< 40 lbs	< 50 lbs	< 60 lbs
1st Lact					
2+ Lact	23	23	23	23	23

Fat Protein Ratio (FPR)

Is it appropriate on the first test?

The ratio of milk fat% to protein% (FPR) can indicate metabolic problems resulting from an inadequate transition management program. A normal FPR of 1.0 to 1.6 indicates that cows began the lactation eating well, are maintaining bodyweight and have a low incidence of metabolic and infectious disorders. Although FPR does not indicate whether fat% or protein% is at the improper level, it is an alert for potential problems.

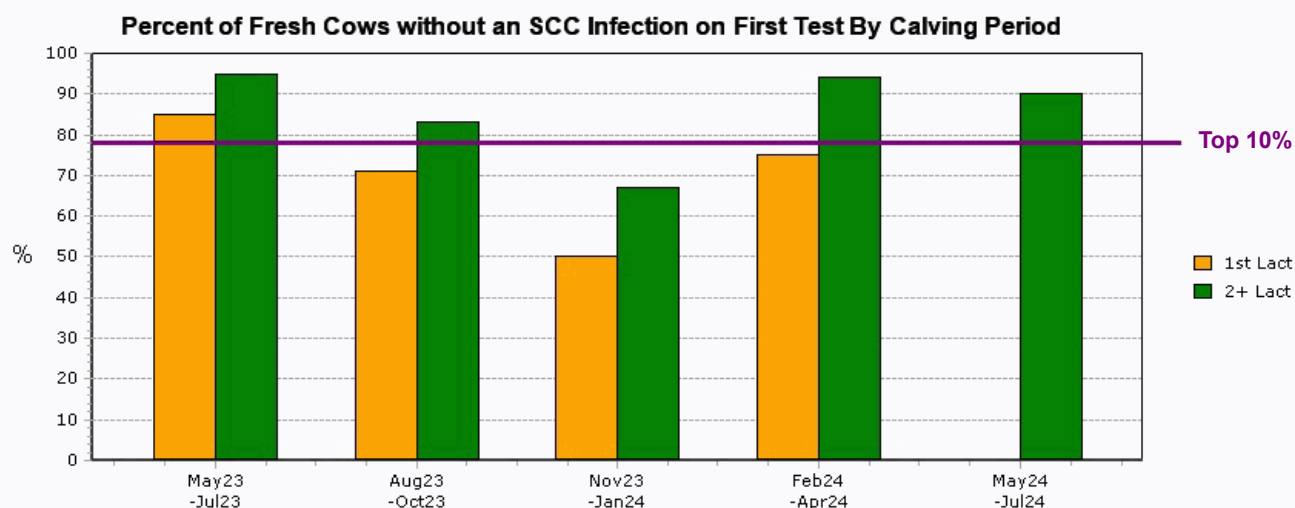


	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	May-Jul
# 1st Included	20	7	2	4	
# 2+ Included	23	6	6	16	10

Udder Health

What percent of the herd does not have an SCC infection on the first test?

Although there is no absolute threshold of SCC for subclinical mastitis, it is usually accepted that a cow with 200,000 cells per ml or 4.0 SCC score has mastitis. A high percentage of infected cows early in lactation indicates potential problems in dry cow treatment programs or dry pen conditions. Note: cured=high at dry off but low at calving, and chronic=high at dry off and calving.



	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	May-Jul
# 1st Included	20	7	2	4	
# 2+ Included	22	6	6	16	10

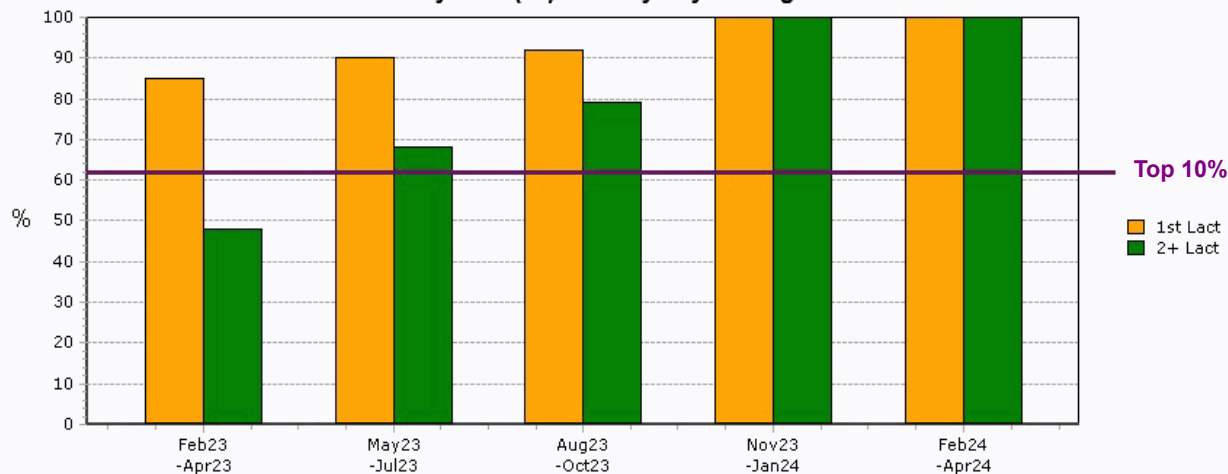
Udder Health for 2+ Lactation By Calving Period

	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	May-Jul
% New Cases	5		17		10
% Chronic		17	17		
% Cures	18	17	17	36	20
# Included	22	6	6	11	10

Reproduction Are cows ready to breed soon enough?

Although length of Voluntary Waiting Periods (VWP) can vary, cows should be bred the first time within 30 days of the end of the period. Effective management of the transition period including feed management and minimization of stressors will enable cows to be ready to return soon to reproductive activity. Thirty days after VWP allows all cows to exhibit heat at least once.

Percent of Cows Bred by VWP (70) + 30 Days By Calving Period

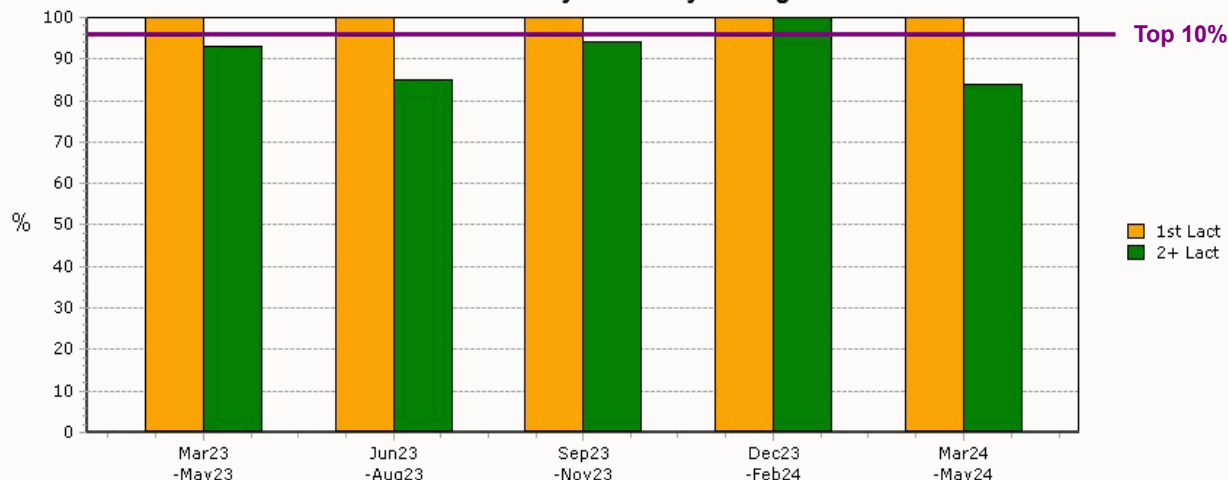


	Feb-Apr	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr
# 1st Included	20	20	12	18	4
# 2+ Included	24	27	17	20	26

Survival Are cows surviving to 60 days in milk?

An early exit from the dairy can result from problems associated with the transition and calving period. When cows leave prior to 60 days, they probably performed at a low level since calving and have not had an opportunity to pay for the costs of the dry period. The level of deaths during this period is a particularly important indicator of how well the transition period is managed.

Percent of Cows Survived to 60 Days in Milk By Calving Period



	Mar-May	Jun-Aug	Sep-Nov	Dec-Feb	Mar-May
# 1st Included	23	18	16	11	4
# 2+ Included	15	26	16	27	19

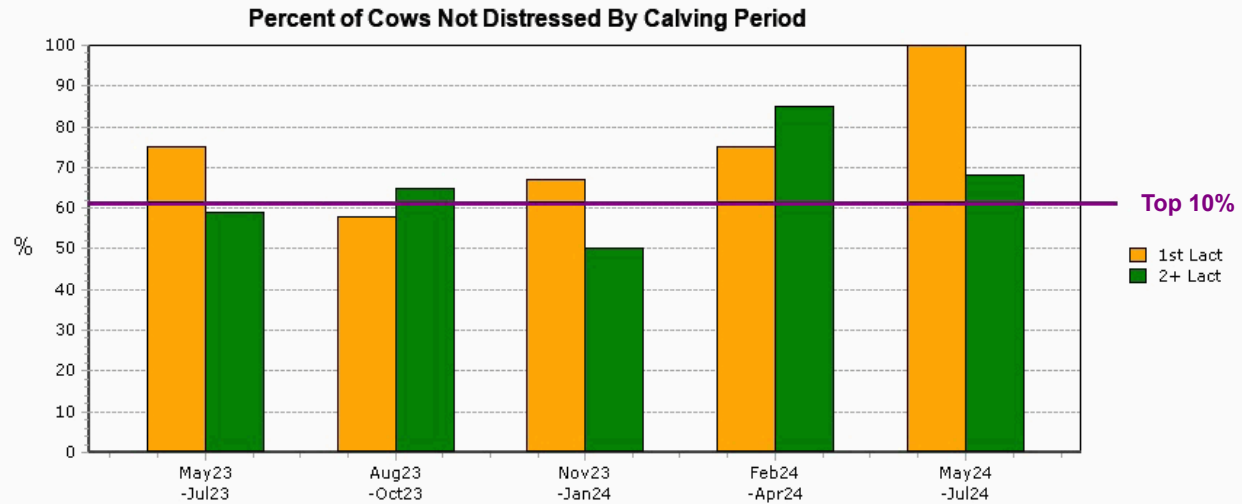
Percent of Cows Left+Died and Died in First 60 Days By Calving Period

1st Lact - Left					
2+ Lact - Left	7	15	6		16
1st Lact - Died					
2+ Lact - Died	7	12	6		16



Distressed Cows What percent of cows were not distressed during transition period?

Cows that have been distressed during the transition period are at risk for less than optimum performance when they leave the fresh cow program. Often, multiple stressors compound problems and can cause cows to fail during the lactation. An examination of information from these cows can offer insights to opportunities for improvement in future management of the transition period.



Percent of Cows Not Distressed by Reason for Lactation 1 By Calving Period

	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	May-Jul
SCC Infection	85	71	50	75	
Clv. Ease is 3-5	100	100	94	100	100
Stillbirth	95	83	94	100	100
Twins	95	92	89	100	100
Abortion	100	100	100	100	100
% Not Distressed	75	58	67	75	100

Percent of Cows Not Distressed by Reason for Lactations 2+ By Calving Period

	May-Jul	Aug-Oct	Nov-Jan	Feb-Apr	May-Jul
Abn. Dry Period	96	94	95	96	79
SCC Infection	95	83	67	94	90
Clv. Ease is 3-5	70	94	90	96	95
Stillbirth	96	100	95	96	100
Twins	93	88	85	100	95
Abortion	100	94	100	100	100
% Not Distressed	59	65	50	85	68

The following list includes cows that calved in the 40 days prior to the recent test day with an SCC infection and/or milk less than: Holstein lactation 1=40, lactation 2+=50; other breeds lactation 1=30, lactation 2+=40. Red highlights low milk or high SCC and yellow indicate other stressors. These cows are currently stressed and might need attention.

Fresh Cows with Low Milk OR High SCC Calving from 07-05-24 to 08-13-24																
Index	Calving Date	Grp	DIM	Lact	1st Test Milk	Pred Peak Milk	Days Dry	1st Test Fat	1st Test Pro	FPR	1st Test SCC	Prev Lact SCC	Civ Ease	SB	Tw	Ab
9819	Jul 5	3	40	2	73	106	57	6.4	3.7	1.7	4223		3			