



Tip

Tuesday!

Fresh Cow Index for Transition Cow Management Success

Fresh Cow Index® (FCI®), a new metric available within the HerdHQ® platform and soon to be included in Dart® software, simplifies evaluating transition cow management. This innovative tool combines 25 individual cow variables

obtained from DHIA testing and CDCB genetic data into a single, easy-to-understand number for efficient and accurate assessment of early lactation animals. Use the Fresh Cow Index to evaluate month-over-month changes in feeding and management and determine potential herd performance impacts.

What is FCI?

- Ratio of energy corrected first test day milk yield and predicted energy-corrected milk (ecm) yield early in lactation
- Calculated for cows that had a 1st test day between 5-40 days in milk
- Includes genetic data, production, reproduction, and calving information
- Developed in collaboration with Dr. Albert DeVries at University of Florida

How is FCI calculated?

$FCI = (\text{First Testday ECM} / \text{Predicted ECM}) \times 100$

FCI > 100 = Cows performed better than expected

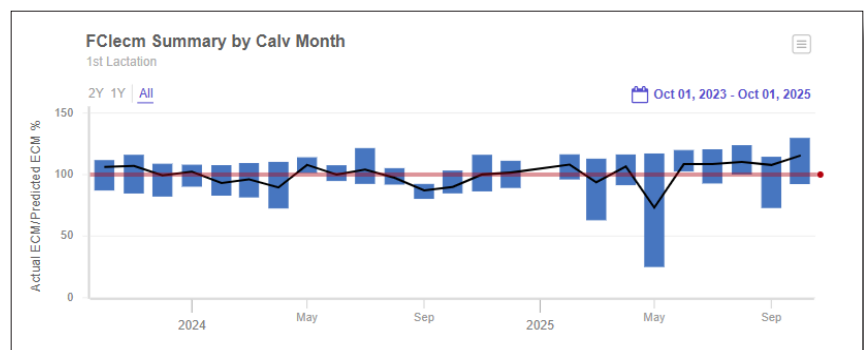
FCI < 100 = Cows under-performed

Total Herd Impact of FCI on Future Performance

- Reduce culling rates
- Increase Peak Milk
- Increase 305-day ECM

Take advantage of new pre-defined reports that include FCI with **DairyDepot**

1. Create a **new Dashboard** or add to an existing one
2. Add **FreshFocus** charts and graphs from the **Transition** category
 - ECM and Milk-only versions
 - Lactation groupings and individual animals



3. Export as CSV for further analysis

4. Drill down to individual cow pages using CowCompass

Look for additional Tip Tuesday articles in the near future where we go into greater detail of the graphs and grids available in DairyDepot for Fresh Cow Index and FreshFocus!