Tip Tuesday!

Fresh Cow Index: FreshFocus with DairyDepot

In the last Tip Tuesday we introduced a new metric called Fresh Cow Index (FCI) available in HerdHQ. If you missed it, look for it (and many other topics!) on the DRMS website. You can find the Tip Tuesday Library under the Support Menu.

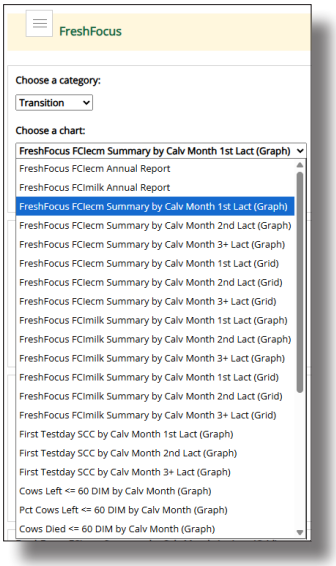
Why use FCI?

- Understand the difference between expected and actual performance of first test; must be between 5-40 days in milk
- Evaluate transition program success for individual animals or the herd as a whole
- Multiple data points united in a single calculation for clarity and impact

How to Evaluate FCI with FreshFocus:

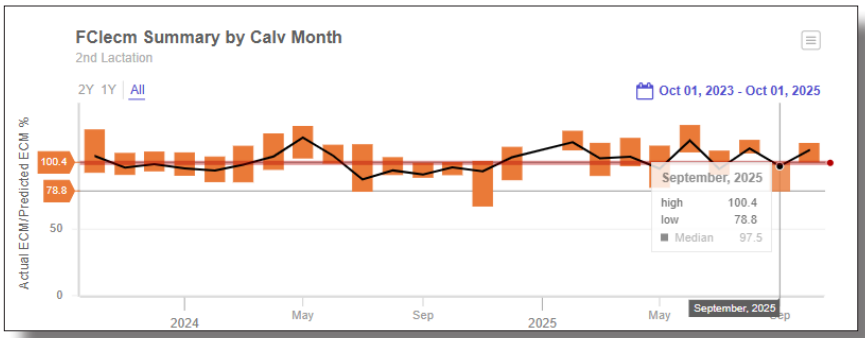
- Pre-defined reports in DairyDepot with drill-down to CowCompass
- Summarizes transition cow performance using FCI

1. Create a **new Dashboard** or add to an existing one
2. Add **FreshFocus** charts and graphs from the **Transition** category:
   - FCIecm Summary by Calving Month
     - 1st, 2nd, & 3rd+ Lactations
     - Graph & Grid formats
   - FCImilk Summary by Calving Month
     - 1st, 2nd, & 3rd+ Lactations
     - Graph & Grid formats
   - FreshFocus FCIecm & FCImilk Annual Reports
   - Cows With & Without FCIecm
   - Cows With & Without FCImilk
   - Individual Cow FCIecm & FCImilk
3. Export as CSV for further analysis



FCIecm Summary By Calving Month

1. Distribution of FCI values by calving month
   - Bottom of each bar = 25th FCI percentile; top = 75th FCI percentile
   - Narrow bars = more consistency in the transition period
   - The Median is the square dot within each bar
     - Each dot is connected with a black line to show the trend
   - Colored line at FCI 100 to show where cows would be producing as expected
   - Hover over data to reveal additional information
2. Corresponding table shows expanded details
   - Evaluate changes in metrics such as dry period length, calving ease, somatic cell score, and more as they relate to transition program success



FCIecm Summary by Calv Month 2nd Lactation CSV

Month	Calved	Twins	Aborted	Pct Diff Calv	Avg Age	Avg Gest	Pct Short Gest	Pct Long Gest	Cows FCI ECM	Avg FCI ECM	Avg FCI Diff ECM	Cows w/ SCC	LSSCC	Pct Infected
Oct 2025	17	0	0	---	34.8	282	0.0	17.6	16	109.2	12.3	17	2.2	23.5
Sep 2025	26	0	0	---	34.5	279	11.5	19.2	17	95.5	-3.6	25	1.4	8.0
Aug 2025	24	0	0	---	35.1	278	20.8	16.7	20	110.0	12.7	24	2.2	16.7
Jul 2025	20	0	0	---	34.3	276	20.0	5.0	12	98.0	-0.9	20	2.2	25.0
Jun 2025	29	1	0	---	34.9	277	27.6	6.9	13	117.8	22.5	29	1.7	17.2
May 2025	41	0	0	0.0	34.6	280	12.2	22.0	12	97.8	-2.3	38	2.1	15.8
Apr 2025	28	2	0	---	34.9	276	32.1	14.3	23	107.2	9.1	28	1.9	7.1
Mar 2025	25	0	0	---	34.5	277	36.0	12.0	7	103.5	4.1	24	1.6	4.2
Feb 2025	17	0	1	---	36.0	279	12.5	6.3	15	115.9	20.5	17	1.5	11.8
Jan 2025	30	0	1	0.0	34.8	279	17.2	24.1	0	---	---	15	1.7	6.7