

# Characteristics and Demographics of USA Dairy Herds - Management and Genetics



Jay Mattison  
CEO, National DHIA  
Administrator, Quality Certification Services Inc.

Duane Norman  
Collaborating Researcher  
USDA-Animal Improvement Programs Lab

# or Information for Managing Dairy Herds



Jay Mattison  
CEO, National DHIA  
Administrator, Quality Certification Services Inc.

Duane Norman  
Collaborating Researcher  
USDA-Animal Improvement Programs Lab

**or**  
**Show Me the Data**  
**Then Show Me the Money**



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**The DEMAND For DAIRY  
INFORMATION –**

**The DATA DRIVEN FUTURE**

# Dairy Farming (milk production)

- ▶ Is a mix of genetics and management
- ▶ Production of calf and milk

# To obtain a live calf....



# Value of Genetics to Farmers

## ▶ Annual Genetic Progress

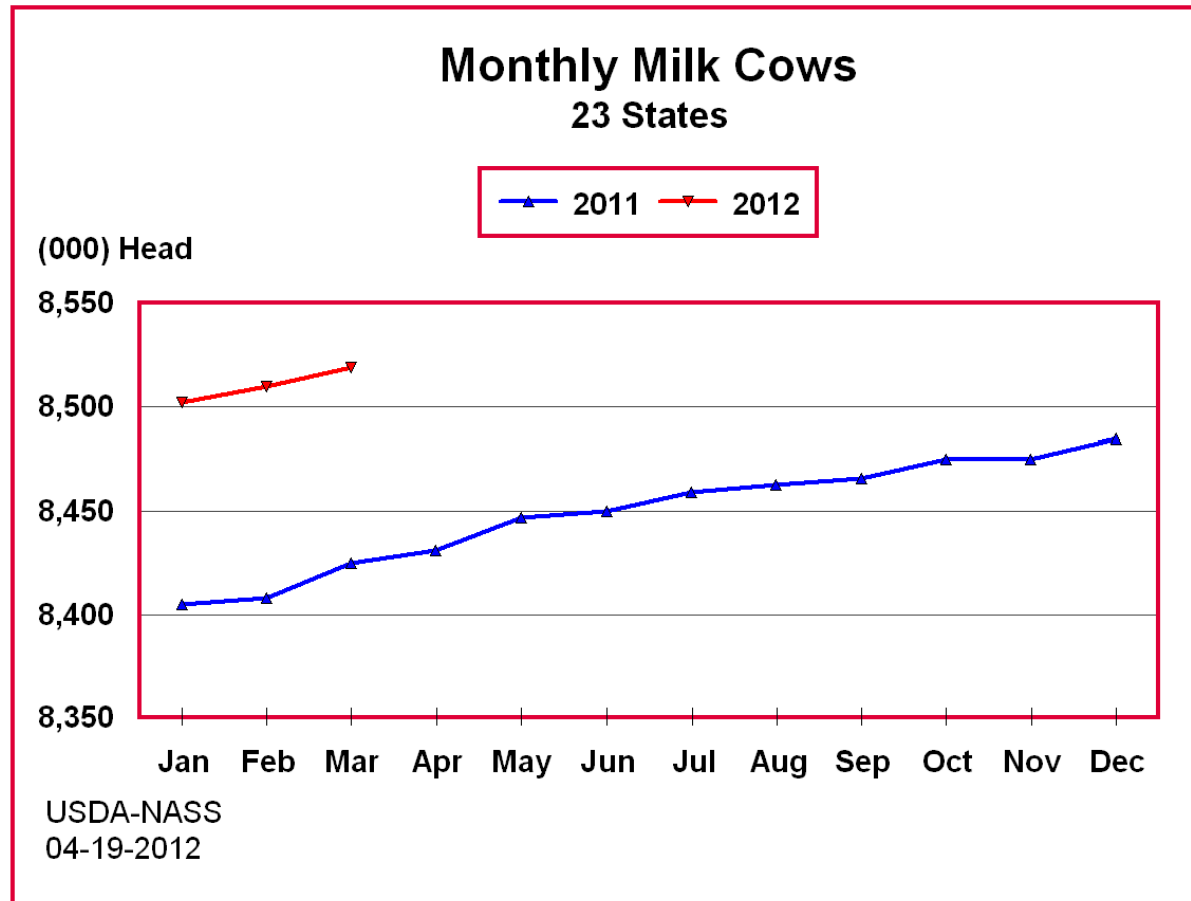
$$\text{Genetic Gain per Year} = \frac{\text{Genetic Variation} \times \text{Selection Intensity} \times \text{Accuracy}}{\text{Generation Interval (Years)}}$$

- Genetic variation **based on population**
- Selection intensity **should** be improved
- Accuracy of selection **could be** improved
- Generation interval **should** be reduced

# Top 23 Dairy States – U.S.

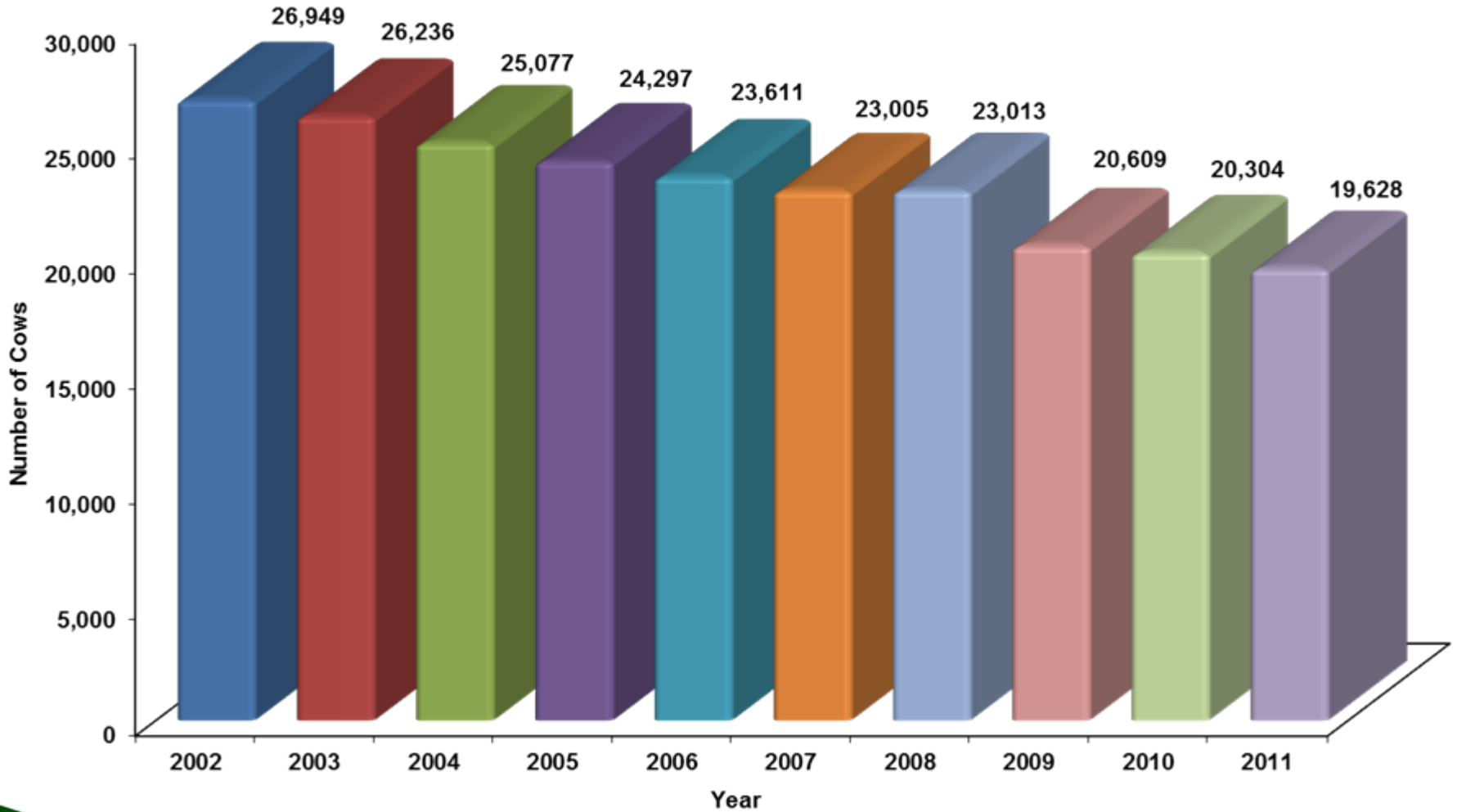
8.57 million cows – 23 states

9.23 million cows – USA Total

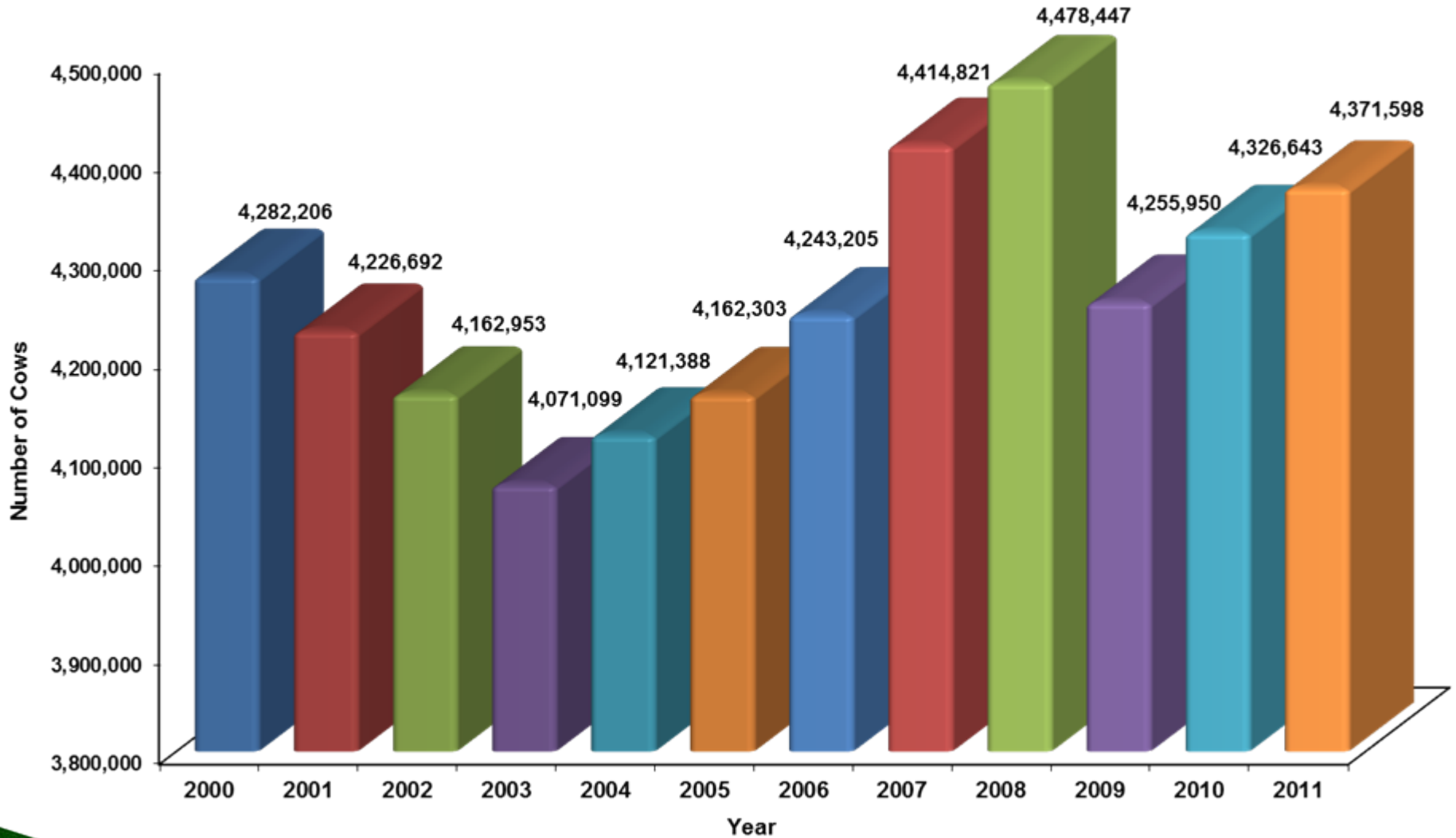




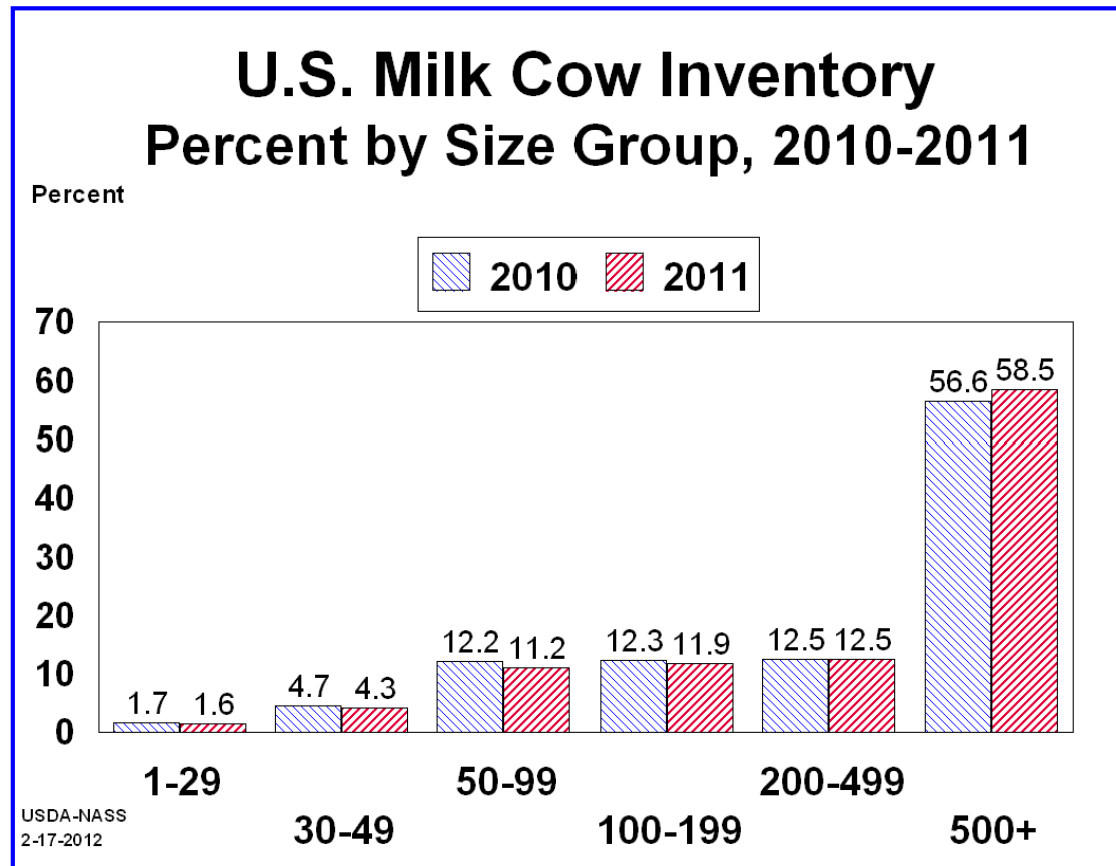
# Herds on DHI Programs



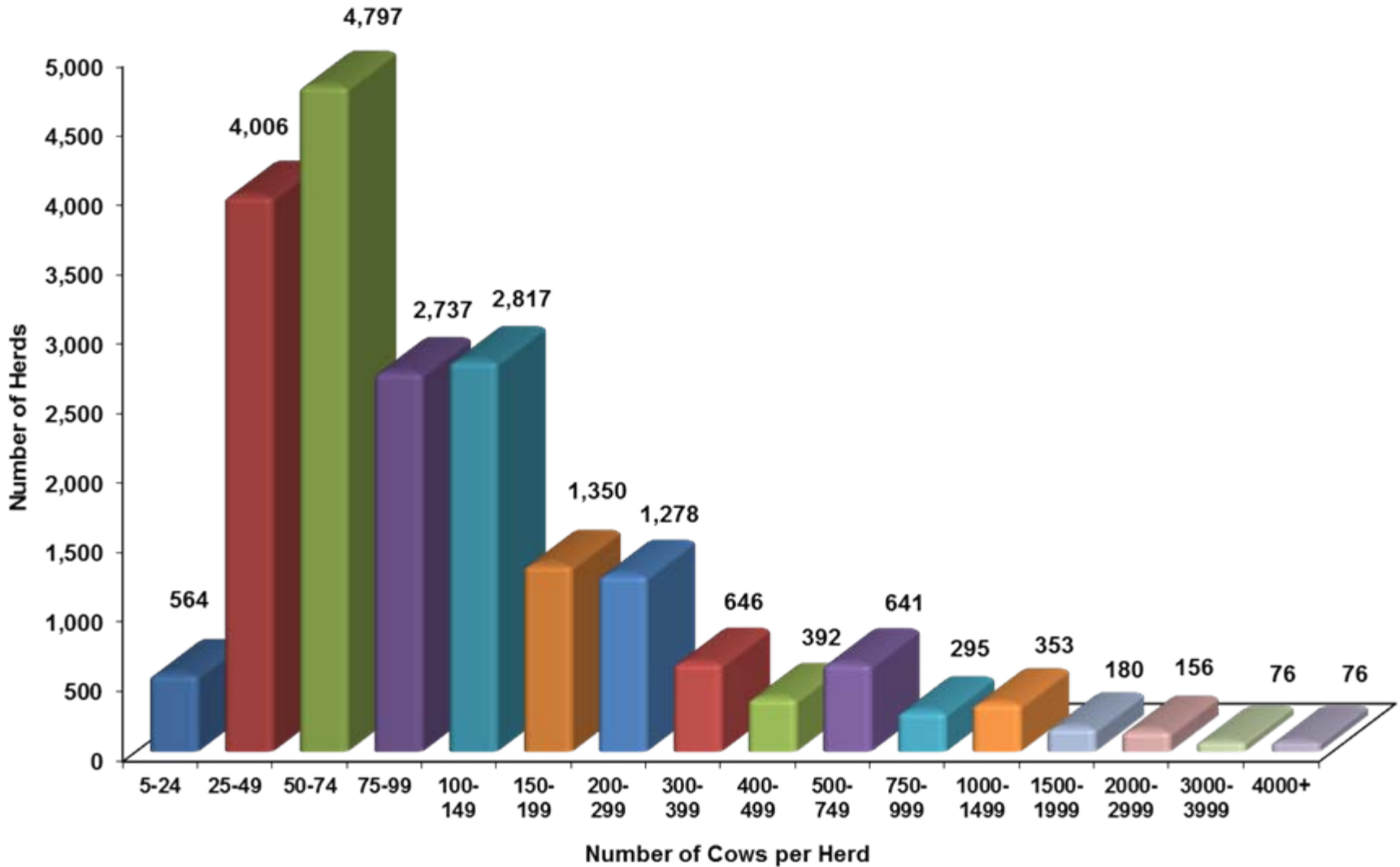
# Cows on DHI Programs



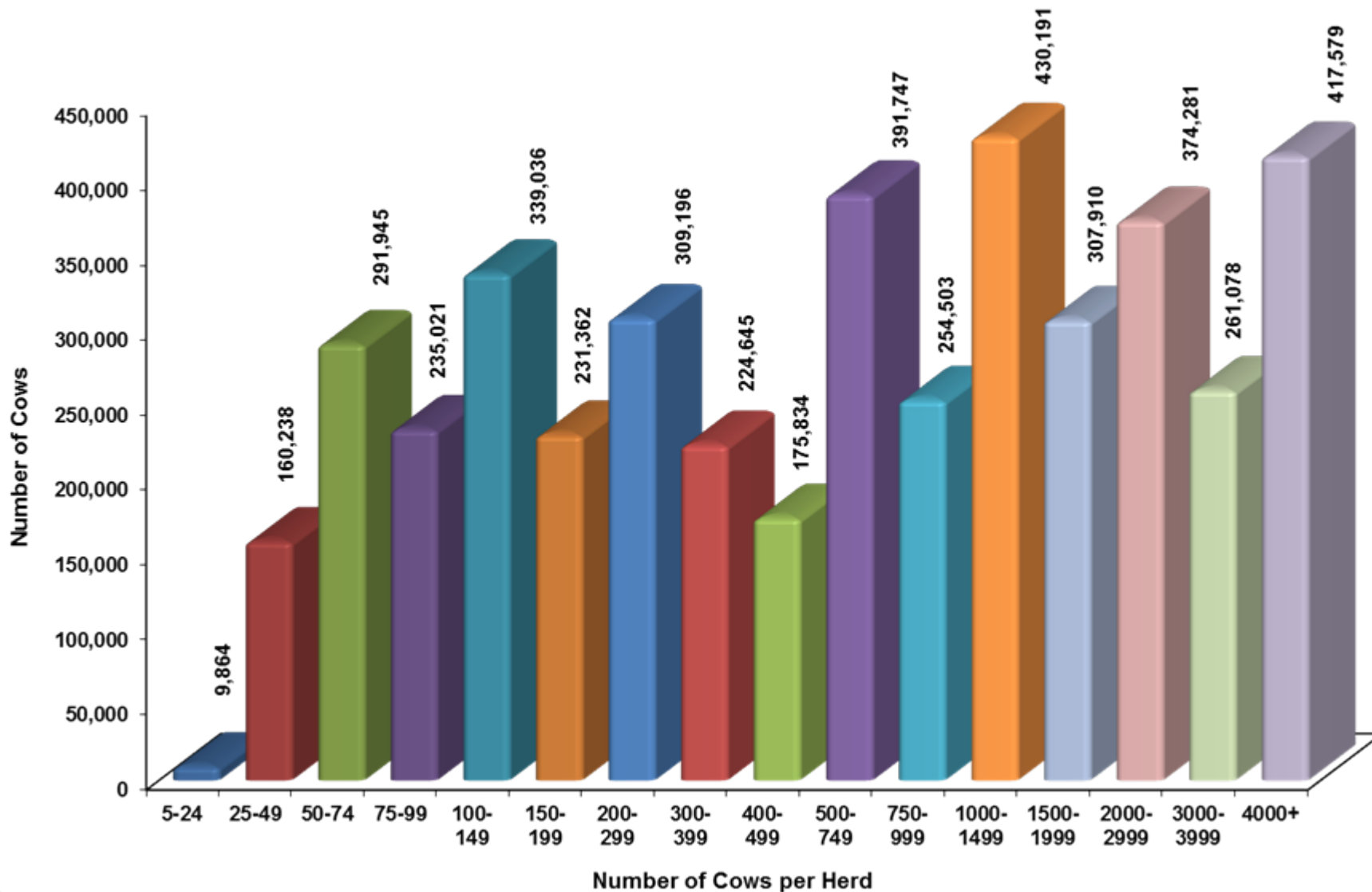
# U.S. Milk Cow Inventory



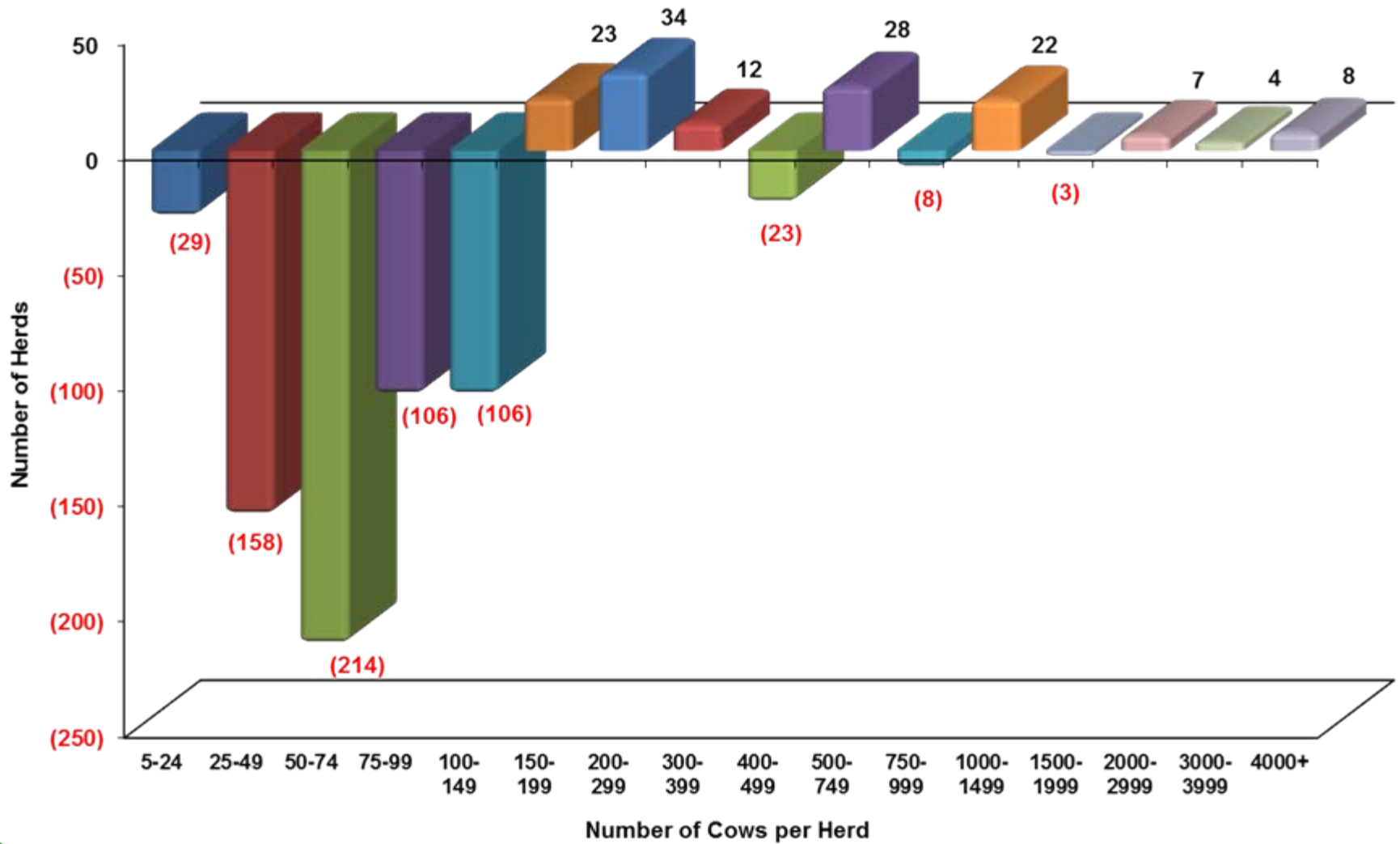
# DHI Herds by Size During 2011



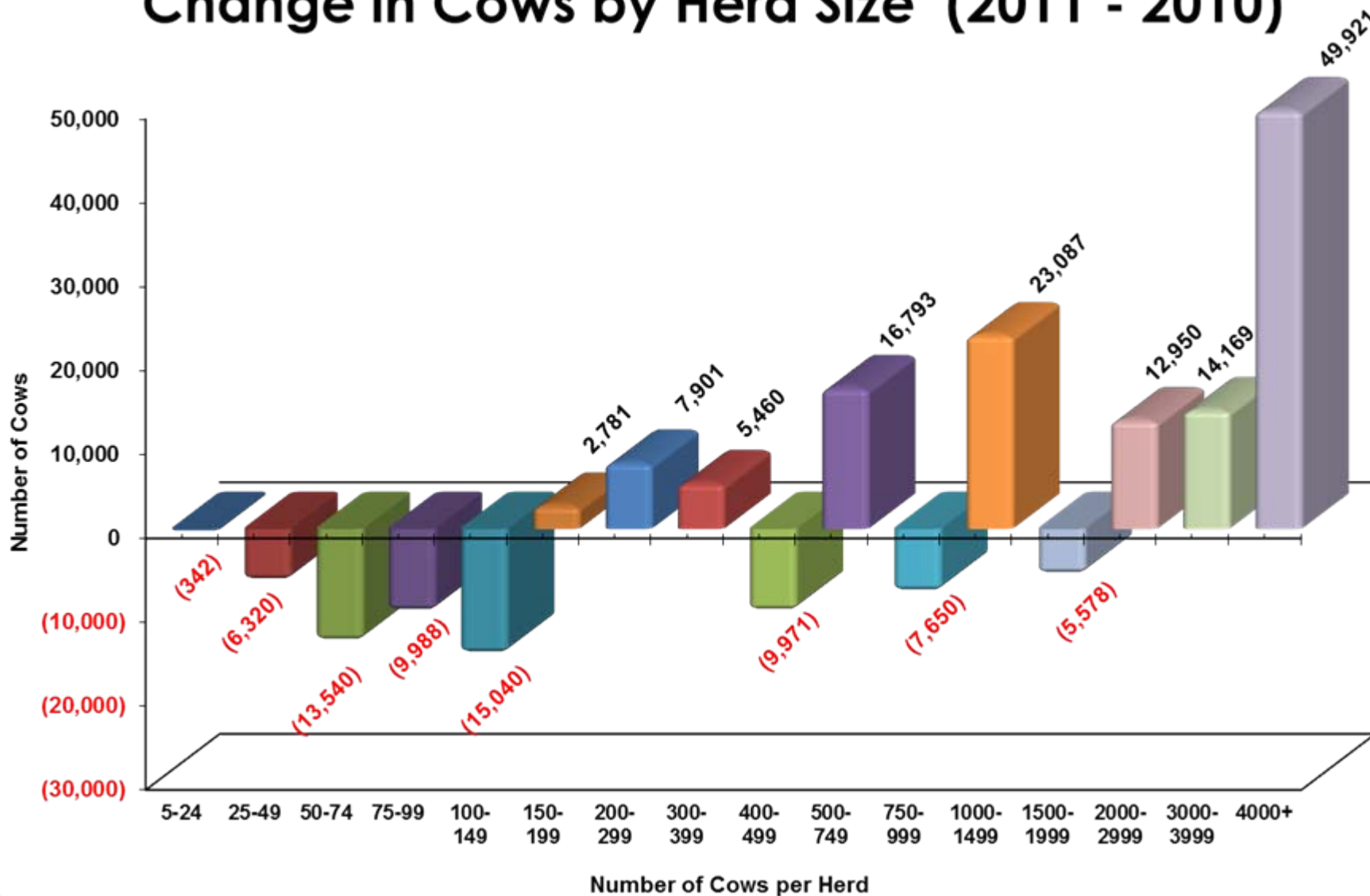
# DHI Cows by Herd Size During 2011



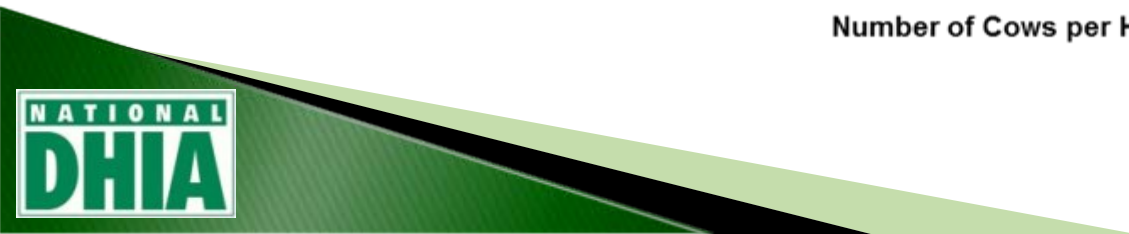
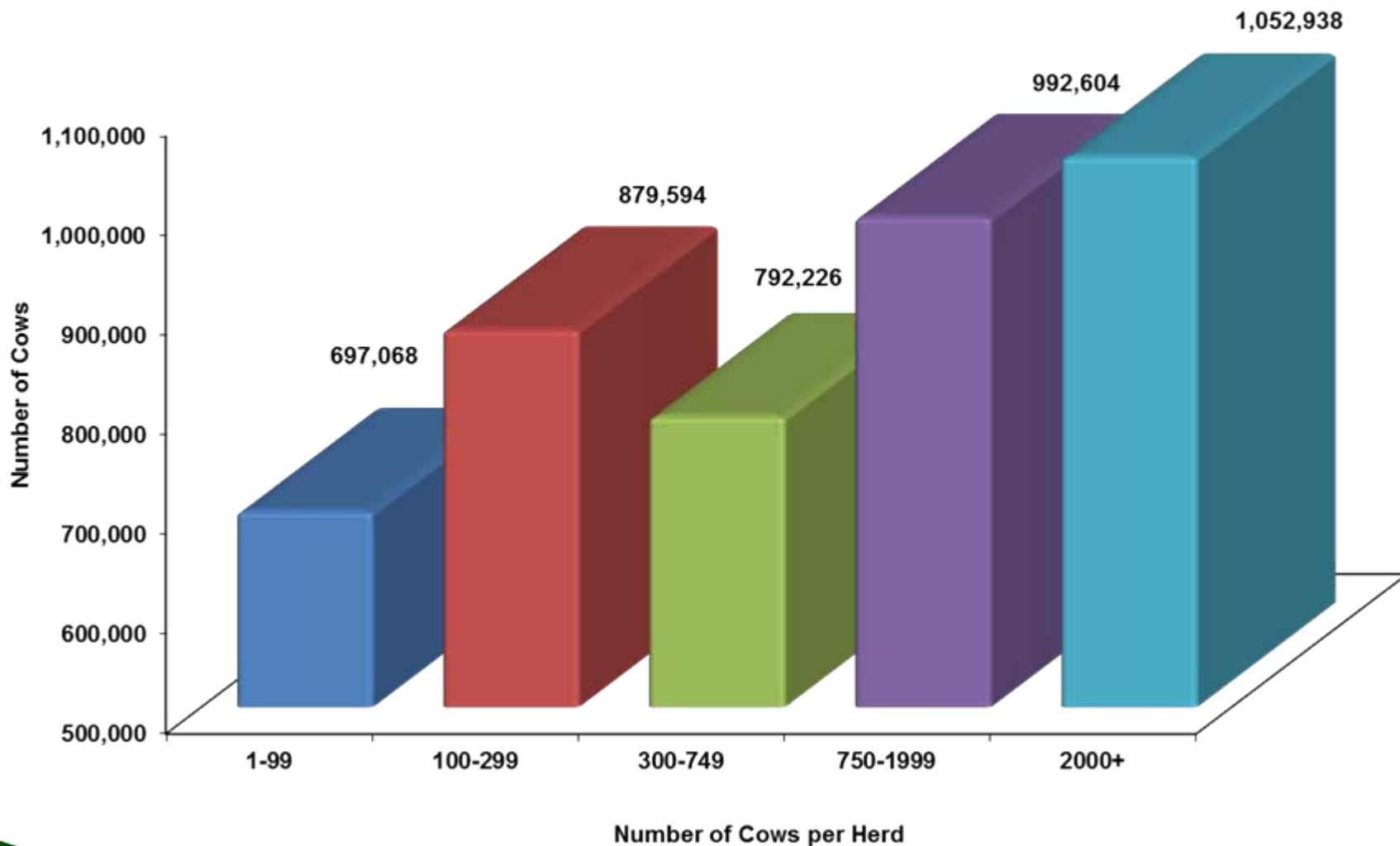
# Change in DHI Herds by Size (2011 - 2010)



# Change in Cows by Herd Size (2011 - 2010)

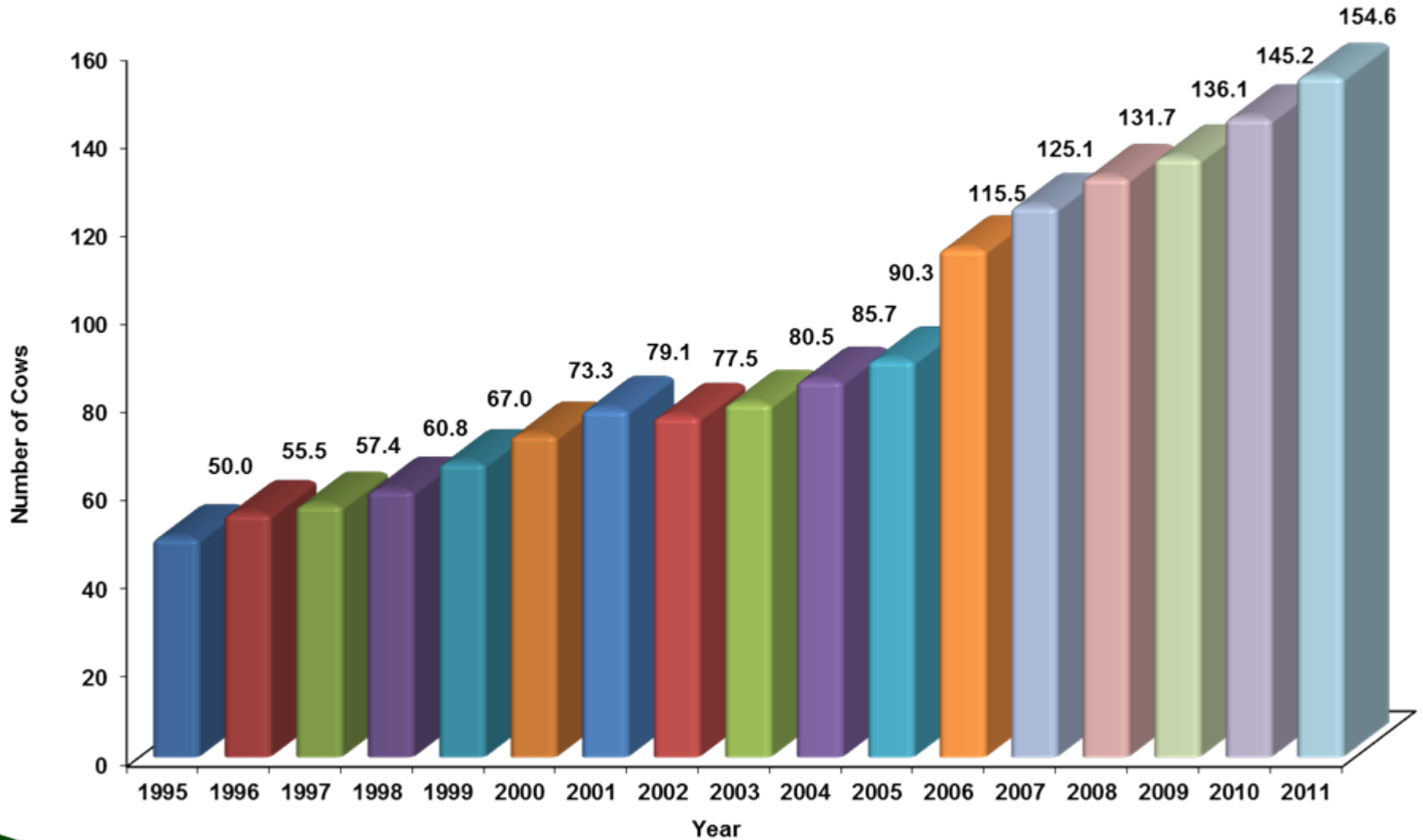


# DHI Cows by Herd Size During 2011





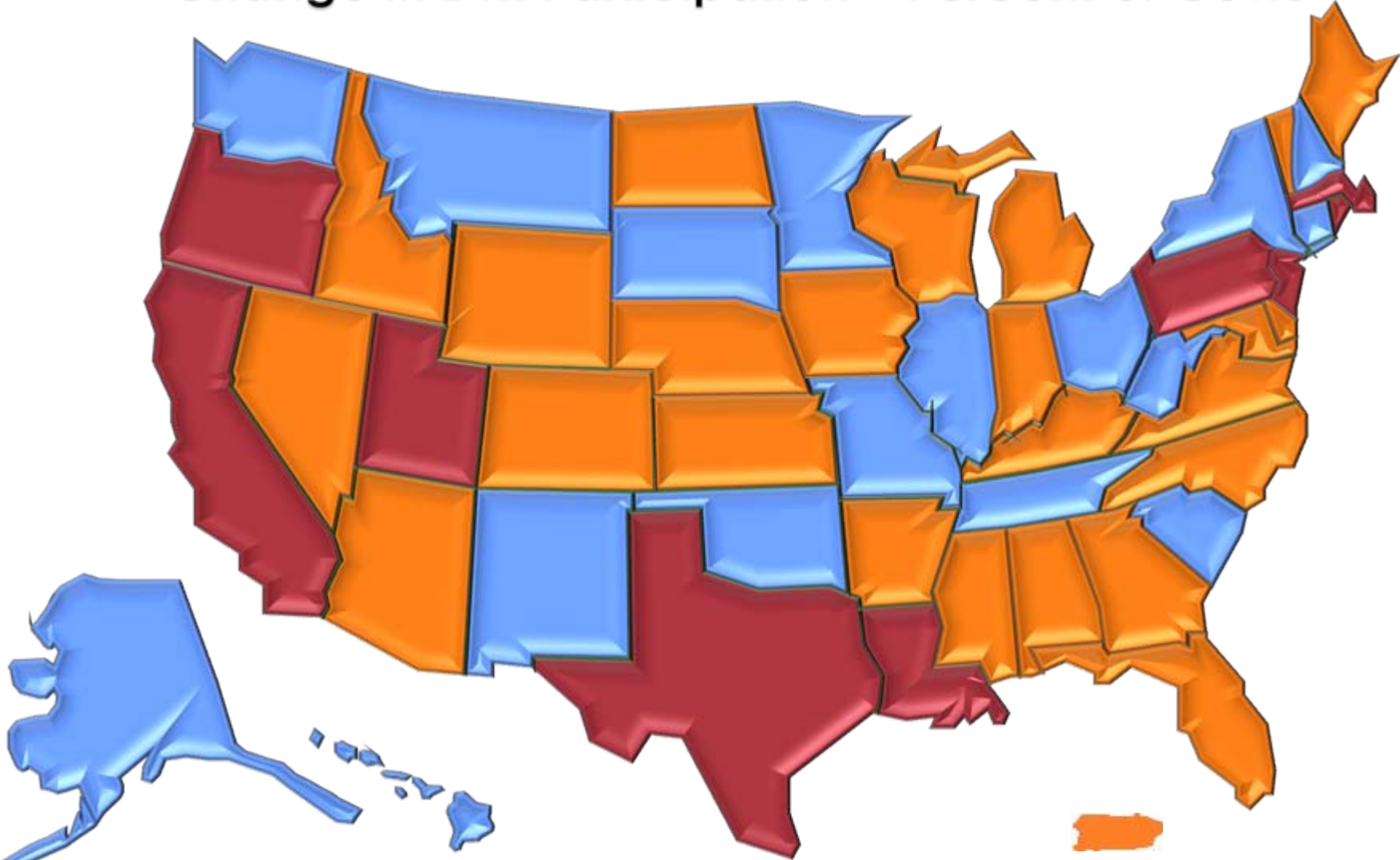
# Average Size of DHI Herds








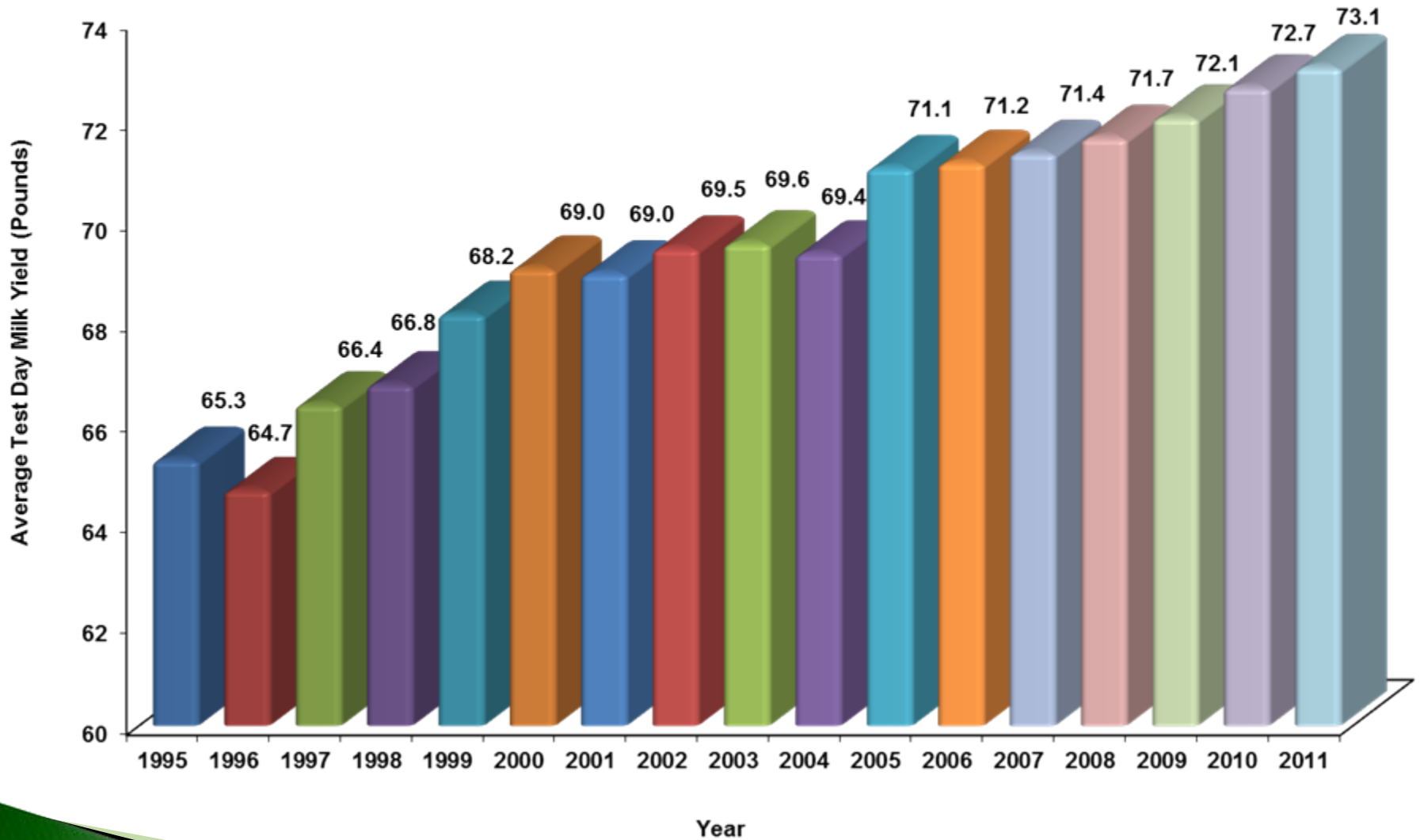


# Change in DHI Participation – Percent of Cows

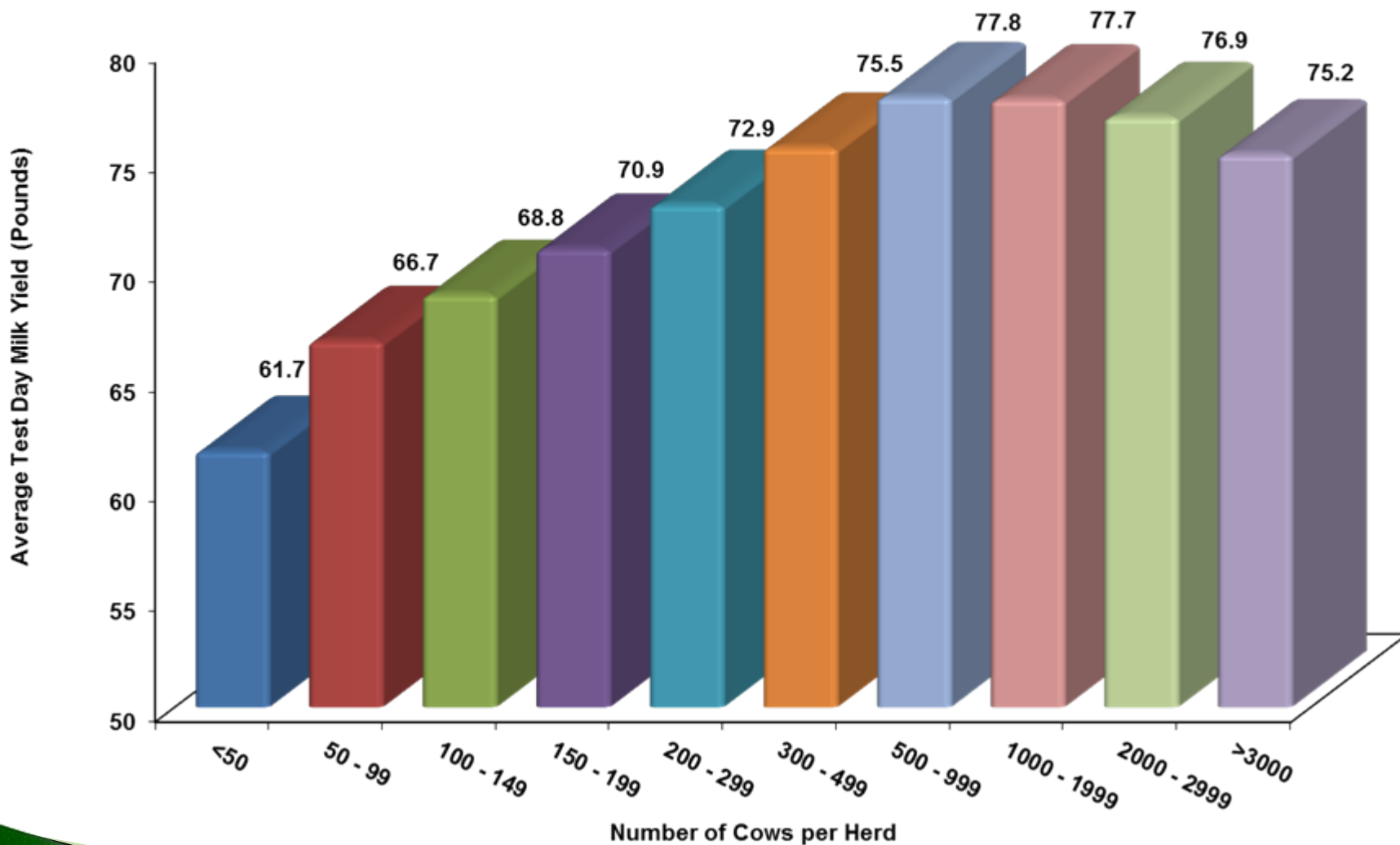


-  Increase in % Cows on DHI (2011 vs. 2010)
-  No Change in % Cows on DHI (2011 vs. 2010)
-  Decrease in % Cows on DHI (2011 vs. 2010)

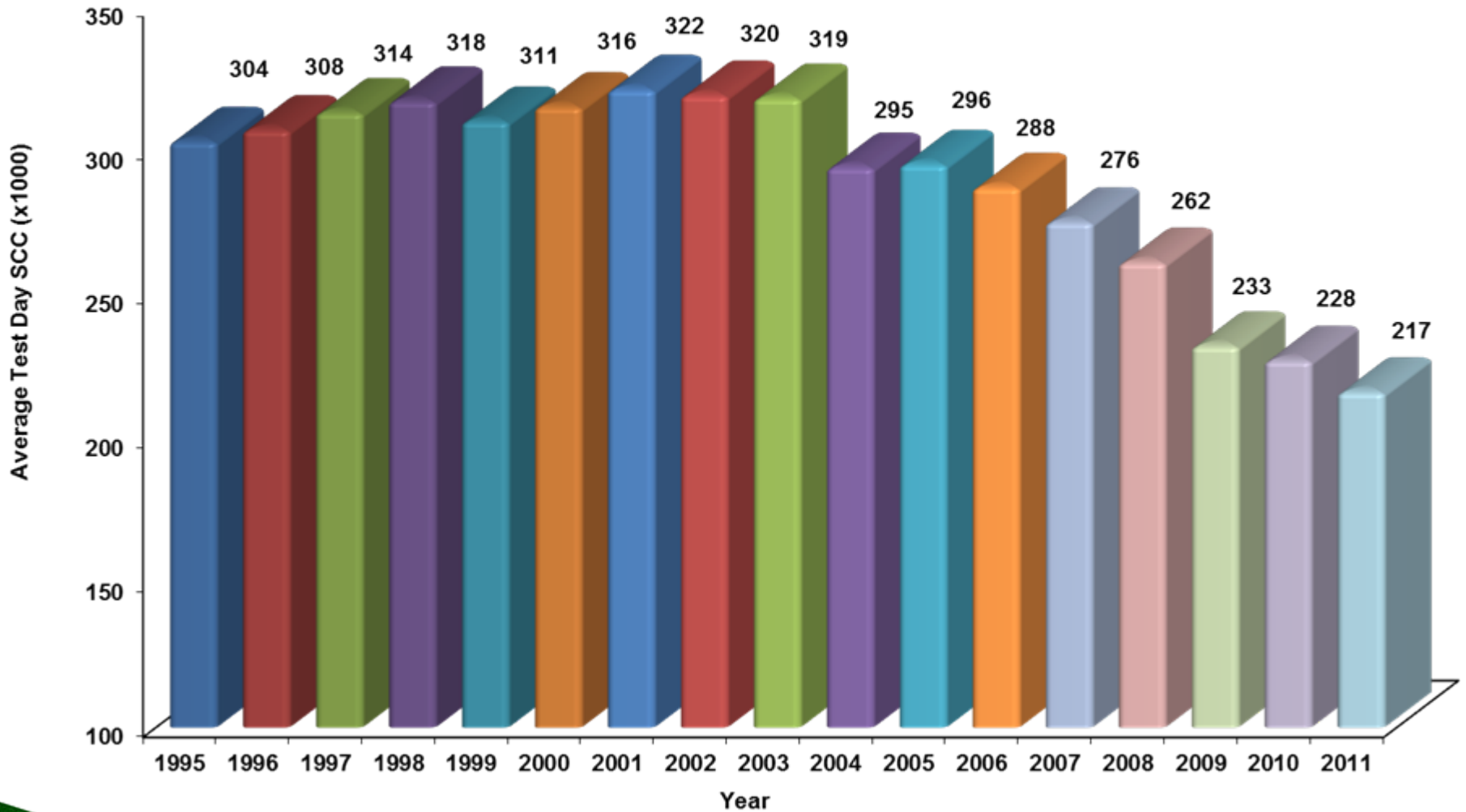
# Average Test Day Milk Yield of DHI Herds



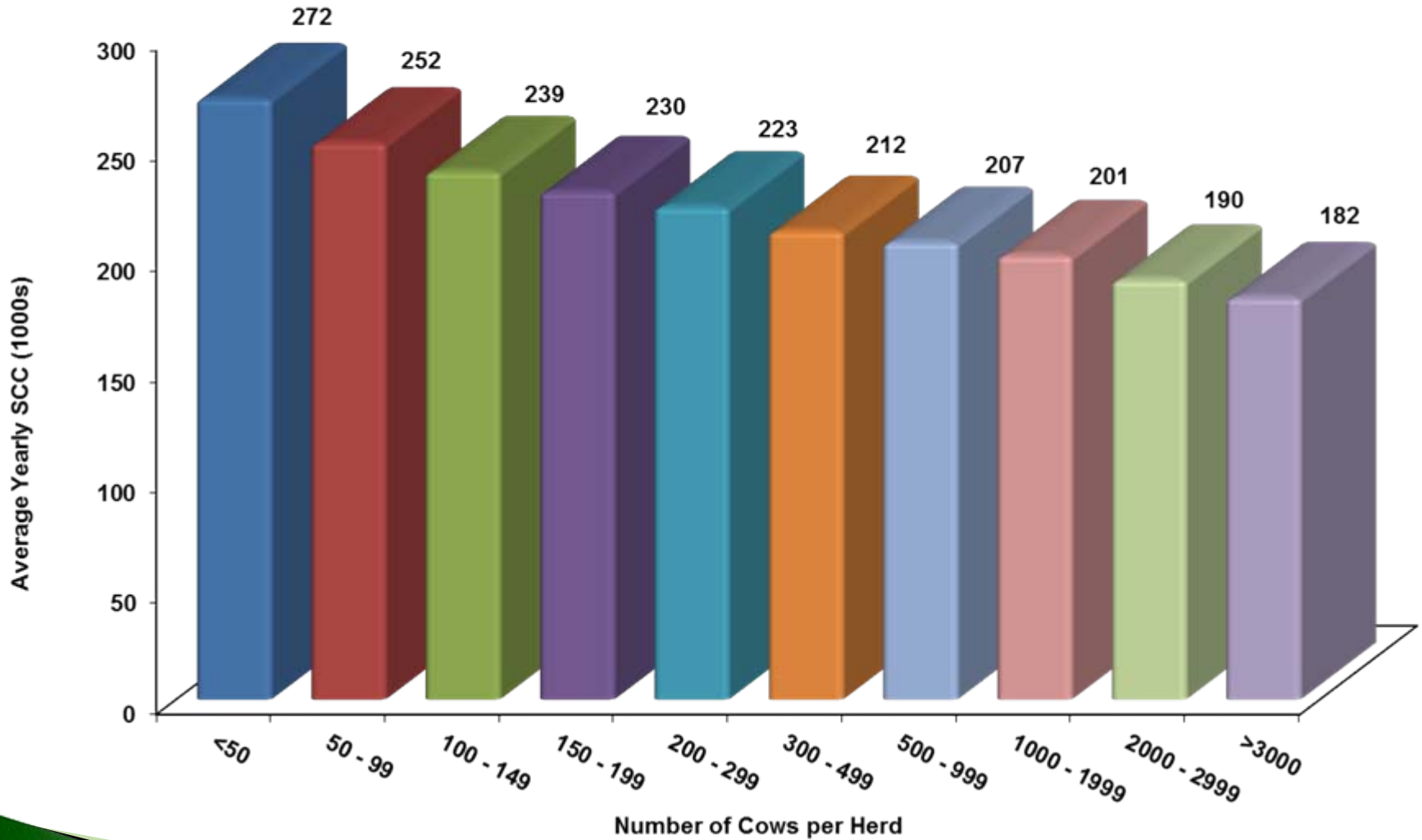
# Average Test Day Milk Yield Relative to Herd Size During 2011



# Average SCC of DHI Herds

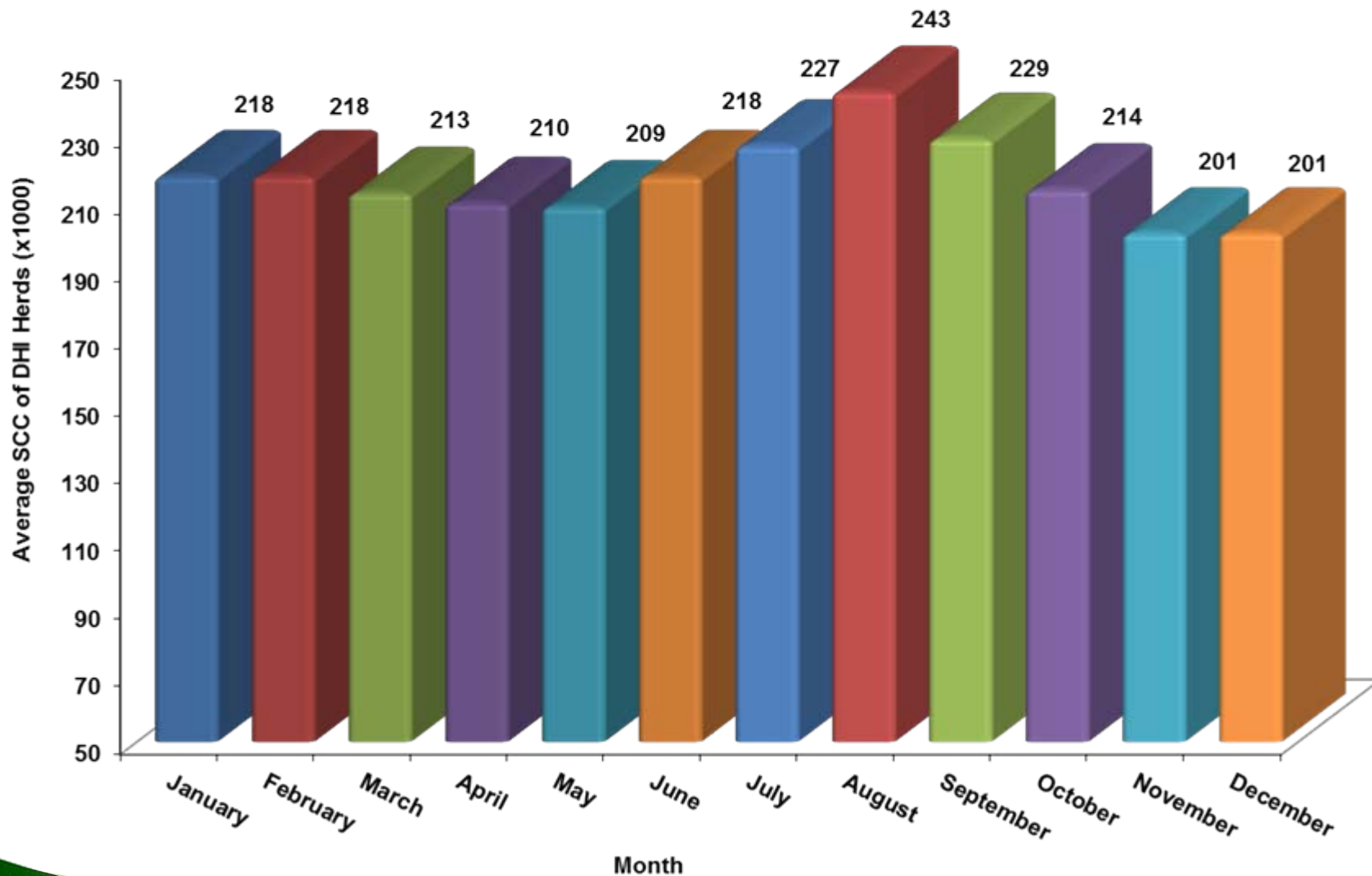


# Average SCC of DHI Herds During 2011

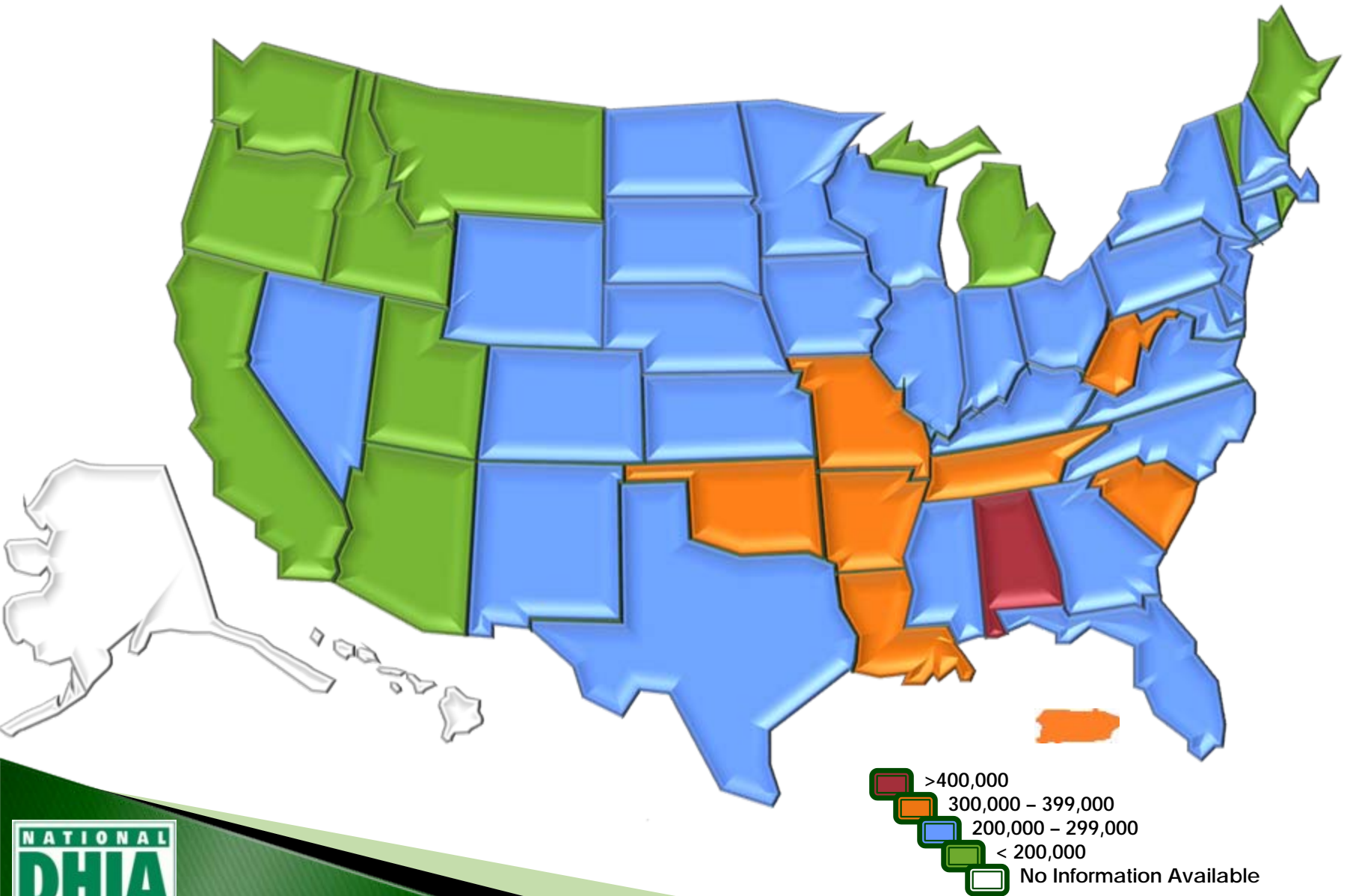




# Average Monthly SCC of DHI Herds in 2011



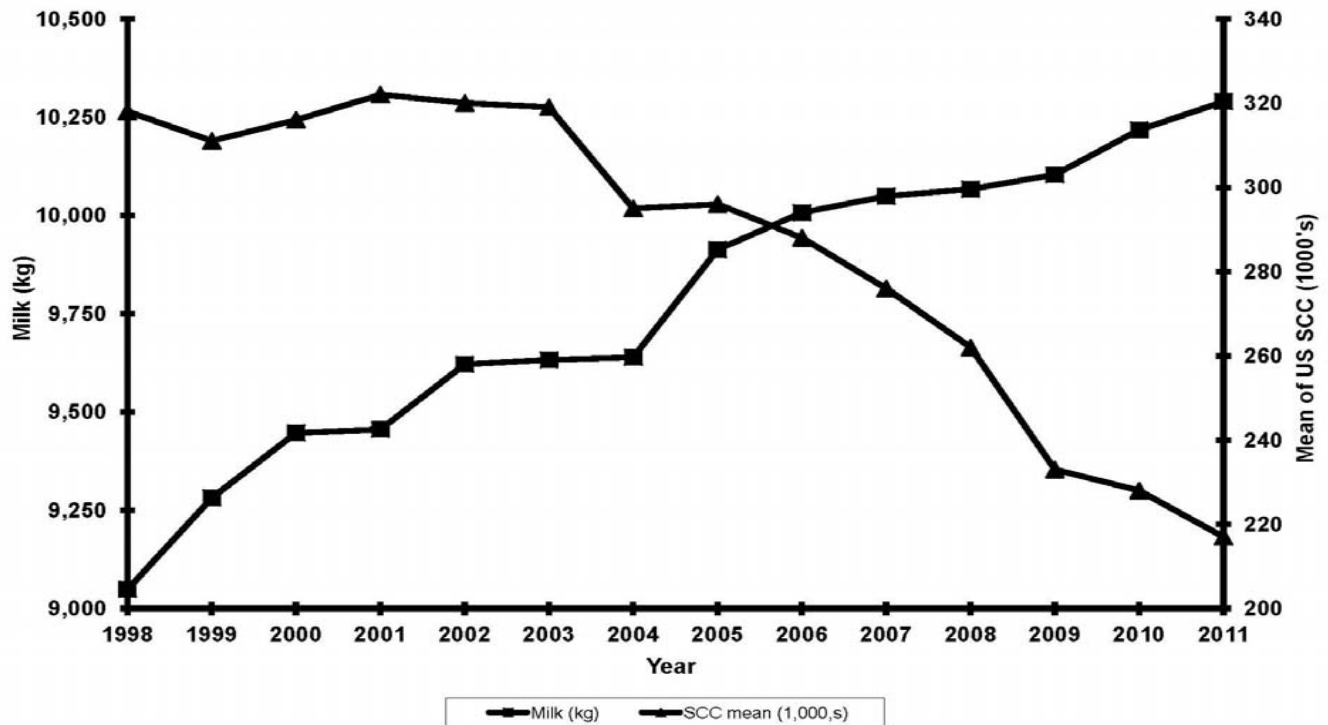
# Yearly Average SCC of DHI Herds During 2011



# Mean Herd Yield and US SCC

New\_Mattison2

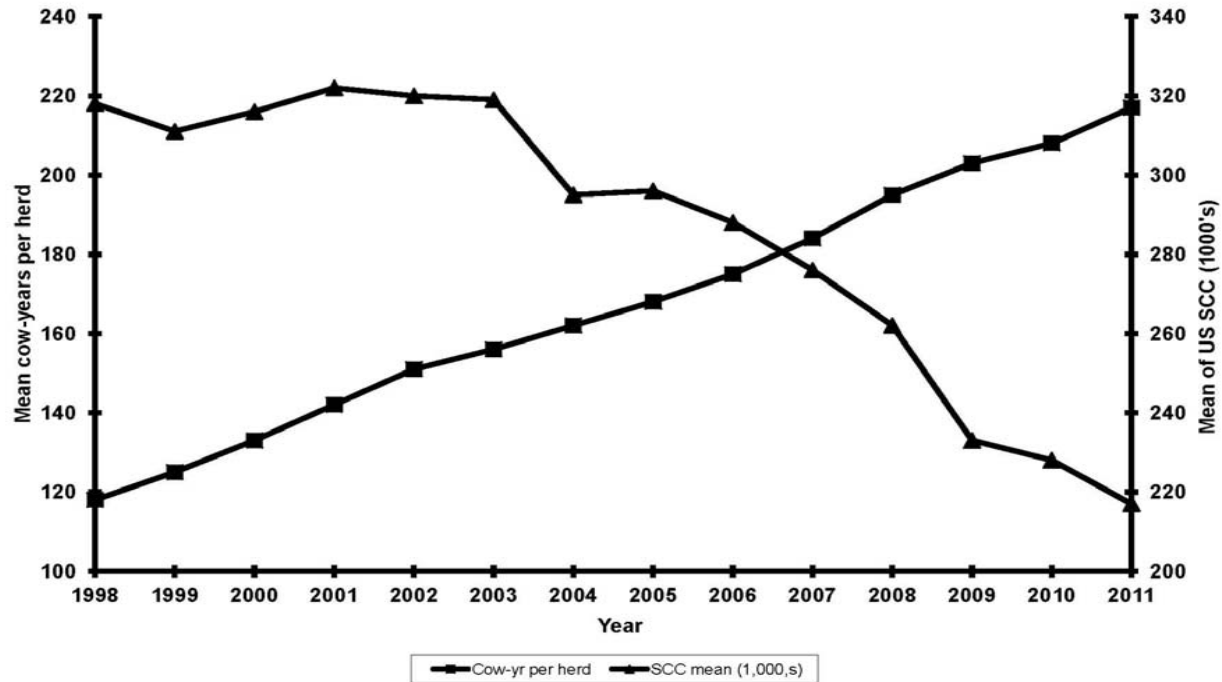
Compare mean herd milk yield and US SCC average across years



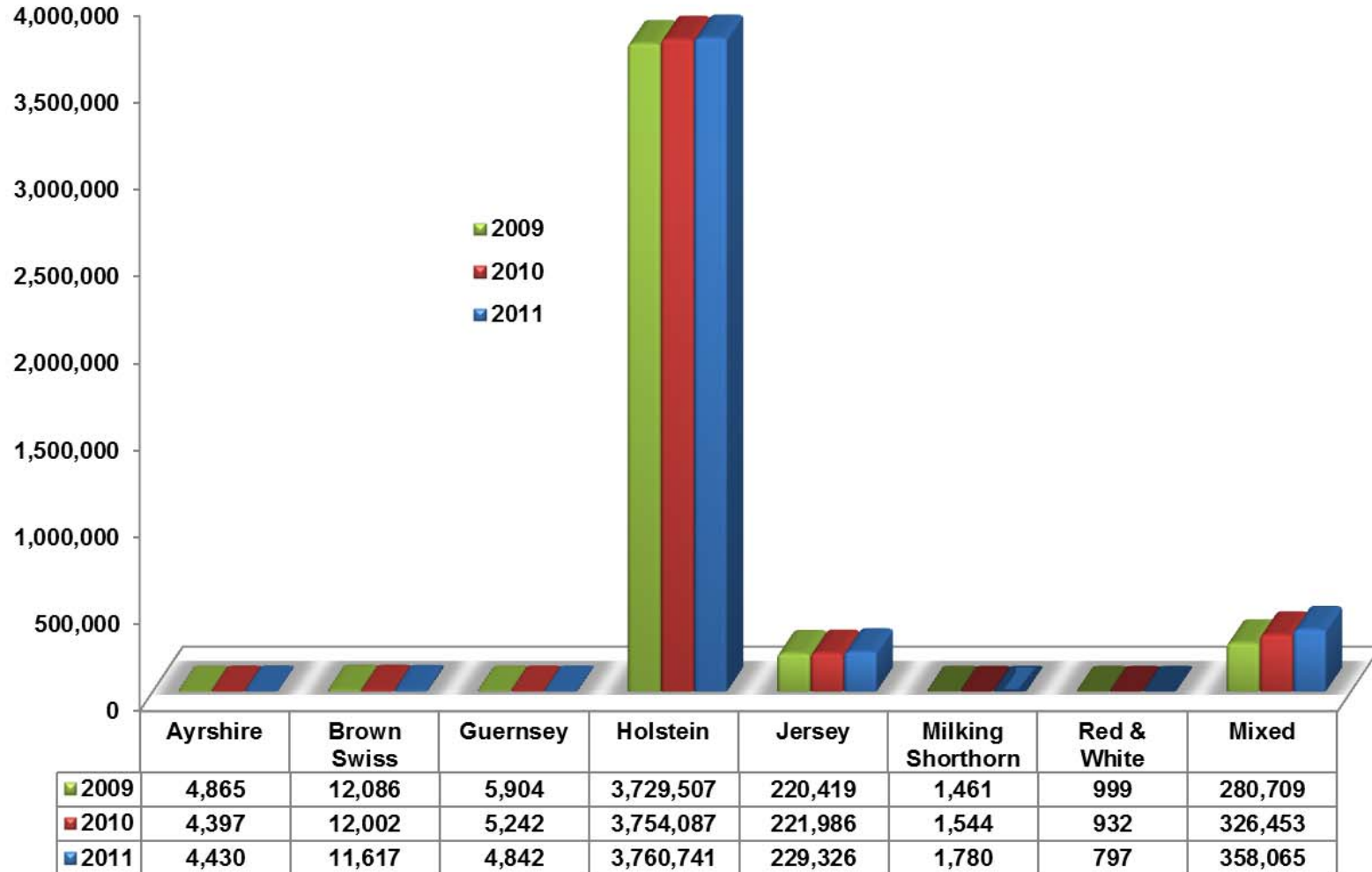
# Mean Herd Size and U.S. SCC

New\_Mattison1

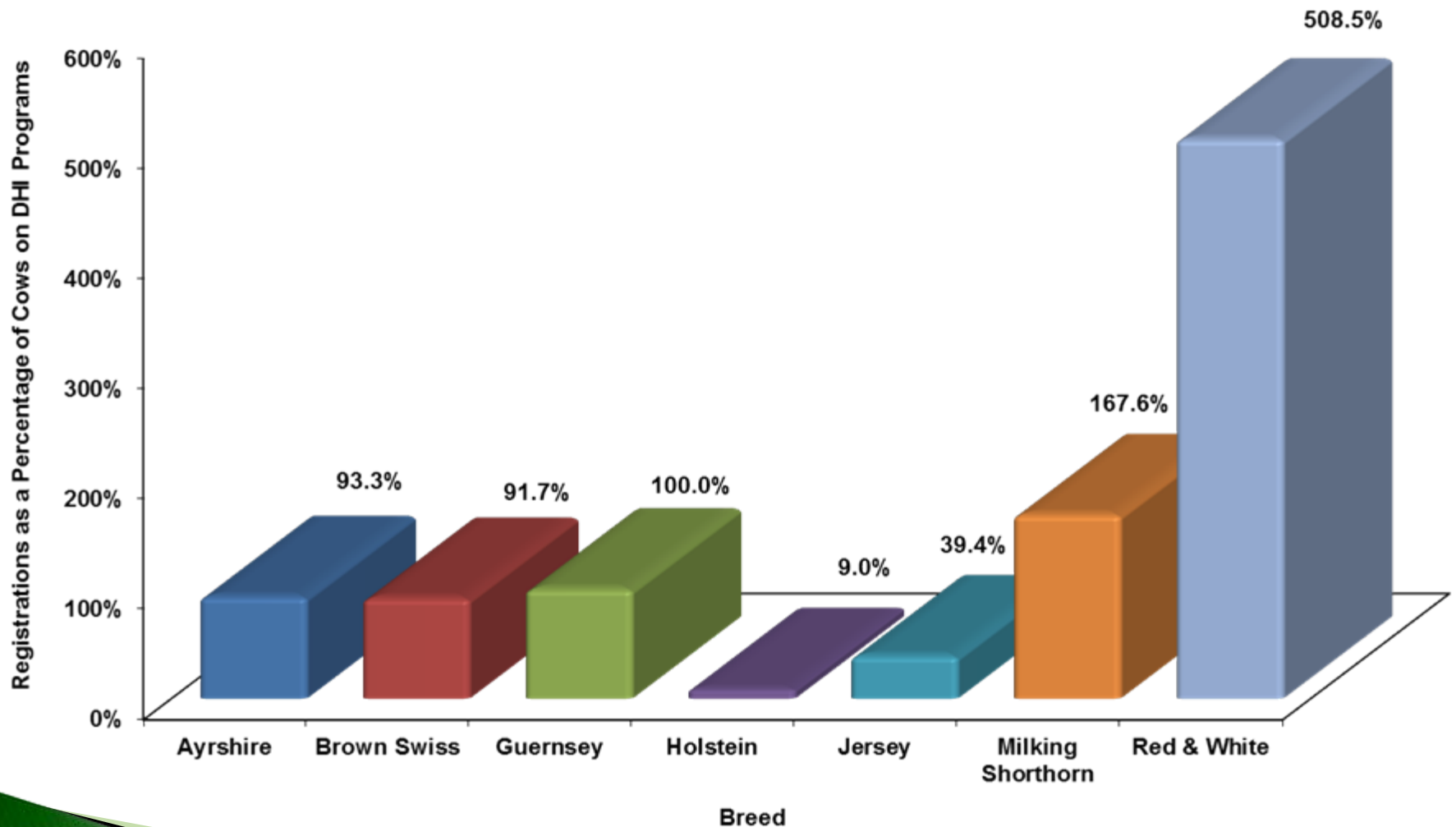
Compare mean herd size and US SCC average across years



# DHI Participation by Breed During 2011



# Breed Registrations Relative to DHI Participation



# Holstein USA Registration, Classification & Testing Activity 2000-2010

Cows

400.000

350.000

300.000

250.000

200.000

150.000

100.000

50.000

0

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010

Reg. Holsteins on DHI	260.126	259.627	245.779	253.770	260.969	274.620	290.965	304.339	326.714	332.378	335.665
Total Registrations	317.567	314.864	315.488	288.841	293.527	301.852	305.143	317.128	248.033	327.662	339.908
Animals Classified	303.538	296.213	289.952	280.549	287.517	295.347	309.623	325.915	351.699	325.715	315.105

# Holstein USA Classification Activity 2000-2010

Cows

Herds

400.000

14.500

350.000

14.000

300.000

13.500

250.000

13.000

200.000

12.500

150.000

12.000

100.000

11.500

50.000

11.000

0

10.500

2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010

Herds classified	14.008	12.989	13.680	13.166	12.762	12.534	13.574	13.305	14.112	13.216	11.886
Animals Classified	303.538	296.213	289.952	280.549	287.517	295.347	309.623	325.915	351.699	325.715	315.105



A unit of semen is really –



Data

In a plastic straw

# Dairy Farming (milk production)

- ▶ Is a mix of genetics and management
- ▶ Production of calf and milk

# Here are the words....

Its another great day to be  
alive...

Here are the words....

To FEED, BREED and CARE for  
animals to provide protein and  
fiber production.....

Here are the words....

Now take the data shown:  
(Show me the data...)

Manage the animals both  
through management and  
genetics...

Here are the words....

Now take the socio-economics:  
(Show me the money...)

To realize the value and  
economic return that can be  
achieved.

**The DEMAND For DAIRY  
INFORMATION –**

**The DATA DRIVEN FUTURE**

# Dairy Farming (milk production)

- ▶ Is a mix of genetics and management
- ▶ Production of calf and milk



Thank you