

NORTH AMERICAN INTERCOLLEGIATE Dairy Challenge

Tomorrow's Dairy Leaders

SOUTHERN REGIONAL

September 19, 2013

RE: NAIDC 8th Annual Southern Regional Dairy Challenge
November 17 – 19, 2013, Baton Rouge, LA

Dear Dairy Challenge Coach:

Based on your previously expressed interest and on behalf of the Southern Regional Committee of the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge, it's our pleasure to invite your school to participate in the 8th Annual Southern Regional Dairy Challenge. The event will be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on November 17 -19. This year's event will be hosted by the Louisiana State University.

We have attached an entry form along with this letter. The entry form, schedule and rules booklet are also available online at www.dairychallenge.org.

This letter contains important information about participation in the Southern Regional Dairy Challenge. Please review it carefully.

New this year:

- This year's contest is being held Sunday-Tuesday.
- We have replaced the formal evening awards banquet with an awards program earlier in the day. As such, contest activities will end by 3:30 pm on Tuesday giving schools the opportunity to travel home on Tuesday night. If your school is not able to complete your trip home, funds will be available to defray the cost of your rooms on Tuesday night. Please indicate your need for Tuesday night hotel funds by checking "Tuesday" by "Room Nights Needed" on the accompanying Entry Form.
- We will be using one farm instead of 2.

Participation

- This event is open to all schools in the Southern region and adjacent states.
- Priority will be given to schools whose faculty advisors have expressed interest in participating. Completed entries will receive priority by postmark if contest size limits are reached.
- Schools are limited to up to 6 participants but 2 alternates may be identified in case we have fewer than 75 students.
- Due to deadlines imposed by the hotel for rooming lists and to ensure the contest flows smoothly, no changes may be made to students participating after October 17, 2013.
- Students will again be presented with the goals or changes the farm is considering; student recommendations should reflect these goals/changes. The students also need to assess whether these are the best goals for this particular farm.

Registration

Registration forms and entry fees are due by **Friday, October 18, 2013.**

- Return to: NAIDC - Southern Region Contest
Attn: Ann Marie Magnochi
3310 Latham Drive
Madison, WI 53713
Phone: 608-224-0400
Fax: 608-224-0300
Email: amagnochi@wdexpo.com
Entry Fee: \$50.00

Make check payable to: North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge or NAIDC.

Housing

Room reservations can only be made by returning the entry form. All participants will be staying at The Cook Hotel and Conference Center at LSU, 3848 West Lakeshore Drive, Baton Rouge LA 70808, PH: 225-383-COOK, www.thecookhotel.com

Rooms will be provided at no extra charge for each participating team:

- 1 room(s) for female participants
- 1 room(s) for male participants
- 1 room(s) for coach(es)

Please note, in order to keep costs down and to facilitate interactions, participants may be placed in rooms with participants (same gender) from other schools. Coaches may also be similarly paired.

- Room reservations will be for the nights of Sunday, November 17 and Monday November 18. If your school is not able to complete your trip home on Tuesday November 19, funds will be available to defray the cost of your rooms on Tuesday night. Please indicate your need for Tuesday night hotel funds by checking "Tuesday" by "Room Nights Needed" on the accompanying Entry Form.
- Hotel check-in begins at 3PM and registration will be from 4-6 PM.
- You should plan to arrive no later than 5:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. The committee is asking your team to deliver computers to the hotel between 4 – 6 p.m. so computers are ready for data distribution at approximately 8:30 p.m. Sunday night activities begin at 6:00 pm with dinner, contest welcome, group activity and data distribution.

Transportation

If you consider flying to the Southern Dairy Challenge, there are several options to consider:

- Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport = 15 minutes (depending on traffic)
- Lafayette Regional Airport = 1 hour
- Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport = 1 hour, 15 minutes.

Ride share options: Contact us if you would like help connecting with other universities who might have room in their van.

Funds for travel assistance are usually not provided but can be considered if a hardship exists and sufficient funds are available. The Regional Steering Committee will decide how funds are distributed. Please notify us if your school is in need of travel assistance. Please indicate your need for Tuesday night hotel room funds on the attached entry form.

Meals

Meals will be provided for one coach and officially registered team members (up to 5):

November 17 (Sunday): Dinner

November 18 (Monday): Breakfast, lunch, and dinner

November 19 (Tuesday): Breakfast and lunch

Additional meals for extra people will have to be paid for at the time of registration. Should you have a member needing a special diet, please include this information with the contest entry form.

A confirmation letter with more contest details will be sent upon receipt of your registration material. Final communication will follow in early November with the last minute details. We look forward to your participation in this exciting and innovative contest.

Sincerely,

Steve Washburn
Southern Regional Dairy Challenge
Schools Contact

Cathy Williams
Southern Regional Dairy Challenge
Steering Committee Chair