

ROBOTIC DAIRY FARM TOURS

Thursday, April 19, 2018

Hoffman's Happy Holsteins

Kent & Kerwin Hoffman

See their brand new 40-stall fully robotic rotary parlor in action.



First Robotic Rotary Parlor in America

This tour is a must see! Learn from Kent and Kerwin Hoffman who installed the first (and only) robotic rotary parlor in the United States.

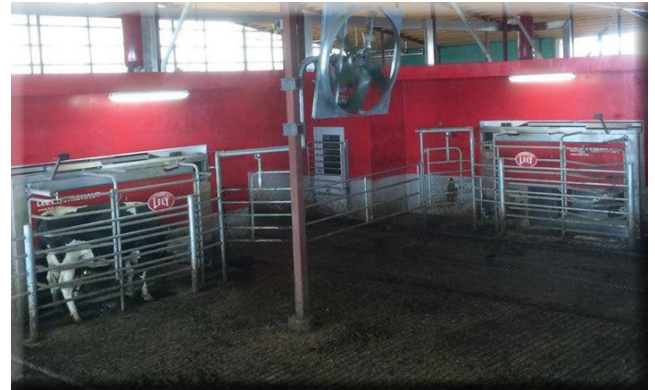
On November 1, 2017, they started milking their 520-Holsteins in their new parlor. They switched from a double 10 step-up parlor to reduce labor and provide more consistency to their high producing herd known for averaging 100#/day.

See their DairyProQ GEA 40-stall robotic rotary in action and hear what they've learned over the past six months.

Drees Dairy Farm, LLC

Henry, Bill & Dennis Drees

Milking 245 Reg. Holsteins, avg. 90 #/day
See their 6-row free stall with 4 robots.



From Tie Stalls to Robots

After years of growing their herd and switching cows at milking time, The Drees family made their move to a six-row tunnel ventilated free-stall barn with four Lely Robots. They've been milking with the "bots" for over three years. This tour allows you to see a farm working through a full transformation with expansion, technology and an average somatic cell score around 50,000!

Learn how they planned for their technology leap, adjusted to the robots, balance a ration using PMR (partial mixed ration) and also incorporate other tools such as genomics, activity monitors, rumination collars and breed 85% of their A.I. bred herd off of standing heats.

Learn what has worked, what has been their greatest challenge and witness the metamorphosis of a dairy outgrowing with 60-stall, tie stall barn and moving into a state-of-the art system.

Get the scoop over lunch

Hear more details and ask questions of the farmers and their lenders. PDPW will provide lunch while Hoffmans and Drees' share more details in a facilitated Q & A session. Hear what went into their research, planning and preparation for phase, and what they have learned since transforming their entire dairy operation with the introduction of robotics. They will share their greatest successes, challenges and what they learned in their journey.



All Aboard

Everyone participating in these tours **MUST** ride one of the buses.

Bus A

Pick-up – 8:00 a.m.

(return at 5:45 p.m.)

Northcentral Technical College
1000 W Campus Dr.
Wausau, WI

Pick-up – 9:00 a.m.

(return at 4:30 p.m.)

WisDOT Park and Ride 58-02
102 Express Way (next to Kwik Trip)
Bonduel WI

Bus B

Pick-up – 8:30 a.m.

(return at 5:00 p.m.)

Fox Valley Technical College
1825 N. Bluemound Dr.
Appleton, WI

Pick-up – 9:00 a.m.

(return at 4:05 p.m.)

Northeast Wisconsin
Technical College
2740 West Mason Street
(Park in Lot G), Green Bay, WI

Pre-registration required. We can't insure you have a seat on the bus unless you pre-register. Registration costs include lunch, refreshments, electronic communication devices, all event supplies like boots and reference materials.

Itinerary

10:30 a.m.

Tour dairy 1

12:00-1:30 p.m.

Lunch and roundtable discussion

2:00 p.m.

Tour dairy 2

3:30 p.m.

Departure

Register at www.pdpw.org or call us at 800-947-7379

Cost to PDPW members: \$60/person

\$185/Non-members (includes your 2018 membership)