Demographic information

~ 150 people in attendance
77 responses for a response rate of roughly 51%
# 2017 Dairy Cattle Welfare Symposium – Evaluation Summary

## Topics & Speakers

### Overall Topic Ratings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>43.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>38.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>14.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>2.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low</td>
<td>0.37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Overall Speaker Ratings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>37.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>36.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>21.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>3.86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Low</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Were the round table discussions (iClicker sessions) effective in presenting and conveying the topics?

- Yes: 78.9%
- No: 21.1%
Selected quotes from participants:

“Thanks to the Sponsors for allowing us to discuss this topic that is so critical to our future.”

“Extremely professional symposium and very organized. Thanks to all sponsors and all who had a hand in developing this.”

“Thanks to all that supported this venture. There needs to be more of this in the dairy industry.”

“Thank you to all of the program planners, organizers, and moderators. The meeting had relevant topics and great discussions, and the meeting ran very smoothly. Great job!”

“The entire idea behind the Dairy Cattle Welfare Symposium is exactly what every dairy farmer should work towards. Getting to talk to the people that were there and also the information that was made available was invaluable.”

“It was great to hear the different perspectives from veterinarians to academics to farmers to industry and really helped identify some areas for improvement for moving information between each.”

“Relevant topics led way to relevant and productive discussion sessions which increased engagement.”

“I liked the open forum where you could have a conversation about what the speakers were talking about while they were speaking and hear other thoughts and opinions at that time and then being able to network with other people in the industry.”

“Discussing important issues with various people within the industry, and hearing first hand from producers how they have handled abuse allegations and how they have improved animal welfare on their farms.”

“This is honestly one of the best conferences I've ever been to.”

“No matter how much [media] you read, it's not the same as hearing the perspective of boots on the ground in the industry in the middle of a heated debate, and I'm really grateful I was afforded the opportunity to gain that insight, and also interject my own ideas and research into this critical dialogue.”

“The whole format was great - having more scientific talks, producer talks followed by roundtables. I came away from the meeting with a lot of practical information to take home.”
What was the most beneficial part of the 2017 Dairy Cattle Welfare Symposium?

Major Takeaway Message:

- Open group discussions/Round table discussions were beneficial.
- Networking opportunities were beneficial.
What could be improved for future meetings/symposiums?

Major Takeaway Message:

- iClicker questions provided good opportunity for discussion, but sessions were often too long.
- iClicker questions need to be better written around an overall theme (need to be proofread and pilot tested).
- More thought provoking questions that promote more meaningful discussion.
What topics/speakers would entice you to attend the 2018 Dairy Cattle Welfare Symposium?

Major Takeaway Message:

- More input from dairy producers on what they are currently doing.
- More practical on-farm solutions to welfare issues.
- Use of technology to improve welfare.
What factors are most important to you for the meeting location (city) and site (hotel/conference center/campus)? For example: proximity to airport, hotel room cost, travel distance from home, opportunities for hospitality or accompanying personal activities, or other factors.

**Major Takeaway Message:**

- Proximity to airport.
- Ease of travel to and from location city, venue, and hotel room.
- Reasonable cost and location.
Do you have any comments or preferences regarding the timing logistics? (for example: 2 full days; 3 days consisting of half day, full day, and half day; weekdays; ending on Saturday; etc.)

Major Takeaway Message:

- No Saturday or weekends!
- 2 full days.
Please take the opportunity to support and thank the sponsors for their generosity in supporting this Symposium. Any additional comments?

Major Takeaway Message:

- Thanks to sponsors and all involved.
- Great symposium at great location and venue.