

Livestock Worker Training Programs

There are two types of training programs available from CSU both spearheaded by Dr. Noa Roman-Muniz. She presently heads up the ILM Bilingual Livestock Worker Training Program and organizes The Dairy Management Program in Spanish (DMPS) offered through CSU's Animal Science Department. Both programs are described in depth on the ILM website under current news and producer information at <www.cvmb.colostate.edu/ilm/proinfo/workertraining.html >.

1) Bilingual Dairy Worker Training Seminars offered by CSU-ILM are customized seminars for individual dairies to train workers on current issues and problem areas. The livestock worker training tools currently offered include guidelines for necropsy techniques, diagnostic sample collection for common diseases, dairy parlor personnel (milker) workshops, calving management, foot care and lameness diagnosis, sick cow evaluation, and heat detection / reproductive management.

2) The Dairy Management Program in Spanish (DMPS) is offered by CSU's Animal Science Department and taught at a central location approximately every 3 months. Past DMPS Programs included Feeding Management (June 05), Supervision, Safety, & Training (September 05), Reproduction & Fresh Cow Health (November 05) and Parlor Management (March 6).

The 2006-2007 DMPS Schedule:
May 06 - Calf Rearing.
June 06 - Calving Management.
August 06 - Feeding Management
November 06 - Supervision,
Safety & Training
February 07 - Reproduction
May 07 - Fresh Cow Health & Lameness
August 07 - Parlor Management
November 07 - Calf Rearing

Dr. Noa Román-Muñiz performed a worker safety training study as the focal point of her Master's project on adult education in the dairy workforce. Worker safety comprises a significant objective of these educational programs, with the ultimate goal being to train dairy workers to perform their assigned tasks in a more skillful, effective, efficient, and safe manner. Emphasis on safe methods of performing the tasks demonstrated and safe application of the skills taught would be of obvious benefit to both the worker (reduced injury and fewer work days lost to injury) as well as to the producer (reduced worker compensation and reduced worker turnover). Thus, as young, untrained workers gain entry-level employment in the Colorado dairy industry, a combined livestock production education and safety education initiative enable them to 1) increase their value to prospective employers, 2) enter dairy employment with greater general knowledge of livestock health and production, possibly limiting employee turnover due to poor performance, and 3) perform high-risk tasks such as milking, moving cows and bulls, and drug administration with greater efficiency, skill, and personal safety, thereby reducing injury claims. The sessions are conducted in both English and Spanish.